

Aziz says Iran embargo inevitable

BEIJING (R) — All five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council support an arms embargo against Iran and a ban is inevitable, Iraq's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Monday. "Nobody, including China, disagrees that a second resolution has to be taken," Aziz said, referring to last July's United Nations resolution ordering a ceasefire in the seven-year Iran-Iraq war. Aziz told reporters the five permanent members — the United States, Britain, France, China, and the Soviet Union — were preparing an enforcement resolution that would impose an arms embargo but there was disagreement on timing. His remarks followed a meeting with Chinese Premier Li Peng, who was quoted by the official New China News Agency as saying that Peking was joining the U.N. Security Council in discussing follow-up actions to the ceasefire resolution. Aziz said the draft of the new resolution could be given to the Security Council's 10 non-permanent members Monday. He declined to say whether his talks had touched on allegations that China had been supplying missiles to Iran.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

U.N. envoy starts talks in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — United Nations envoy Marrack Gouding said Monday that efforts for Middle East peace had made new progress towards a comprehensive settlement. "New ideas have been emerging and new activities are undertaken creating new progress towards a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East," he told reporters after meeting Egyptian Foreign Minister Elmar Meguid. Gouding, a U.N. assistant secretary general, is in Egypt to discuss peace moves. He earlier visited Syria, Lebanon and Jordan and met Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat in Tunis. "There is a wider realization in the world, including Israel and the U.S., that the present situation is not tolerable any more and must be changed," he said. Gouding also said he had received information from Lebanon on kidnapped American U.N. officer William Higgins. "There has been a new development on Higgins this morning," he said without elaborating. "It is a warning situation indeed... the secretary-general has been making every effort with friends in Lebanon and everywhere to get him released."

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Prince Mohammad conveys message to Sheikh Isa

BAHRAIN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad was received here Monday by the emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa. Prince Mohammad conveyed to the emir a verbal message from His Majesty King Hussein.

PLO urges UNRWA not to cut operations

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) urged a U.N. agency Monday to reverse its decision to close schools and clinics for Palestinians in Lebanon. The U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said Sunday the schools and clinics would have to shut because foreigners supervising supplies had been withdrawn after the kidnapping of two Scandinavian relief officials.

Israel says two 'infiltrators' held

RASHAYA, Lebanon (R) — Israeli soldiers captured two Palestinian commandos trying to "infiltrate" from South Lebanon, sources said Monday. They said soldiers searching fields just 500 metres north of the frontier, inside Israel's self-declared "security zone," seized the commandos Sunday night. Three commandos crossed into Israel Feb. 4 and ambushed an Israeli army patrol, killing two soldiers and injuring one, before they were shot dead.

U.S. says no deal for kidnapped marine

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government said Monday it would make no deals to win the release of kidnapped Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins, who spelled out the demands of his captors in Lebanon on a videotape. "We don't make deals with terrorists, period," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters. He said the videotape, released Sunday (see page 2), was obviously made under duress and repeated the U.S. call for the release of Higgins and some 24 other foreigners believed held hostage in Lebanon.

U.S. navy secretary resigns over budget

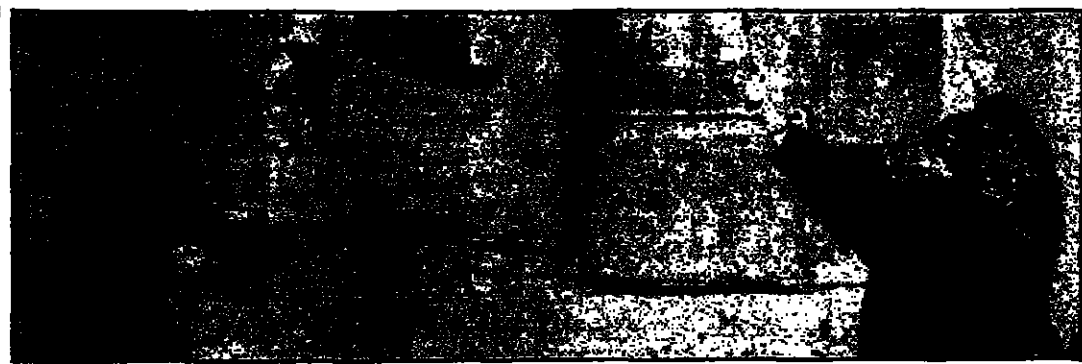
WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Navy Secretary James Webb resigned Monday with a blast at Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci's budget-cutting decision to postpone plans for a 600-ship American navy by the end of 1989.

Gemayel pledges security for Africans

BEIRUT (R) — President Amin Gemayel promised Monday to protect Africans in Beirut after a spate of murders and two bomb attacks on the Ivory Coast embassy, official sources said. They said Gemayel gave the assurance to Ivory Coast Ambassador Koudou Azigbo Arnel the day after a second bomb was hurled at his embassy in east Beirut this month. No casualties were reported from either attack. Witnesses said gunmen shot dead an African man in the Dora area of east Beirut Saturday, the latest of up to 16 deaths blamed on a feud in the eastern sector of the capital.

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An Israeli soldier threatens a demonstrating Palestinian woman in the West Bank

Occupied territories mark 'Martyrs' Day'

RAMALLAH, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Defiant, angry Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza marked "Martyrs' Day" Monday in memory of the Arabs killed in the Palestinian uprising that began Dec. 9.

In a biting criticism of Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's policy of allowing soldiers to beat protesters, attorney general Yosef Harish said there had been too many cases of abuse.

"You cannot use force as a means of punishment, abuse or humiliation," he told the defence minister in a letter made public.

One Palestinian was shot and wounded Monday in this West Bank town 15 kilometres north of Jerusalem and another in the Gaza Strip refugee camp Jabaliya, according to hospital sources.

About 1,500 additional police officers were deployed in Jerusalem in advance of the visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz which is set to begin Thursday. The reinforcements



Israeli soldiers blindfold arrested Palestinians before moving them to detention camps

are in addition to the Holy City's normal contingent of 1,000 soldiers. Israel fears the presence of the secretary of state will lead to an

upsurge in the uprising. In Kfar Naumi, a village of 2,000 inhabitants 10 kilometres

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Superpowers make major stride towards strategic arms reduction

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union Monday gave their arms control negotiators one month to complete the key provisions of a new treaty to sharply reduce their strategic nuclear weapons.

The decision was taken as U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz wound up two days of talks in Moscow. He said negotiators in Geneva who have failed to make significant progress towards a 50 per cent cut in long-range nuclear weapons were directed to report to him and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Washington March 22-23.

Shultz also told a news conference the Soviets indicated they would be more flexible in handling emigration applications, except for those from people who have had access to state secrets. Shevardnadze confirmed "categorically" that only those with information the government con-

siders important to national security would be barred from emigrating, according to Shultz.

On other issues, Shultz did not cite specific progress.

He said he did not have the "slightest doubt" that the Soviet Union had decided to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan. But Shultz, who said before the trip he would seek a specific timetable while in Moscow, gave no indication he had received one.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said the troops would be withdrawn over a 10-month period beginning May 15 if U.N.-sponsored negotiations on an Afghan settlement were successful.

Shultz also did not say whether the Soviets agreed to support the U.S. effort to impose a worldwide arms embargo against Iran for its refusal to comply with a U.N.-ordered ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

He vehemently denied that he sought Soviet backing for his Middle East peace initiative. Shultz said the parties in the region — Arabs and Israelis — would determine whether his trip to the Middle East later this week would succeed.

"I didn't come here with my hat in hand looking for support," he said.

At their December summit in Washington, U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Gorbachev gave their Geneva arms control negotiators new instructions to guide them in cutting strategic nuclear arsenals in half.

Shultz met with Shevardnadze for more than eight hours Sunday and called their discussions "very worthwhile."

He also talked with Soviet Premier Nikolai I. Ryzhkov and Nobel laureate Andrei D. Sakharov.

Egyptian authorities alerted to possible return of Nasser's son

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's entry points have been alerted to the possible return of Khaled Abdul Nasser, a son of republican Egypt's first president and a prime defendant in attacks against Israeli and American diplomats, a published report said Monday.

The report in the state-run newspaper Al Akhbar followed a weekend statement in an opposition Nasserite newspaper that the eldest son of the late Gamal Abdul Nasser will return to face charges that on conviction could send him to the gallows.

Al Akhbar also said Ahmad Al Khawaga, a defence attorney and head of the Egyptian Bar Association, had flown to Belgrade seeking to bring Khaled back from his Yugoslavian exile.

Cairo's newspapers reported that authorities in Yugoslavia, where Khaled has obtained political asylum, had been notified that he was a fugitive through the police coordination agency in-

terpol. Khaled Abdul Nasser, 38, is the second defendant among 11 facing possible death sentences in connection with four shooting attacks in Cairo between 1984 and 1987 that killed two Israelis and wounded six others and two Americans.

Nine others including a Gamal Shawky Abdul Nasser, a nephew of the late president and also a fugitive, are charged with lesser crimes.

"Khaled Abdul Nasser's name has been placed on the list of (people) expected to return to Egyptian airports and ports," Al Akhbar reported.

It said Al Khawaga, the attorney, hoped to persuade Nasser in Belgrade to turn himself in to Egyptian authorities. Khawaga's office confirmed his departure but gave no details.

Although Egypt and Yugoslavia have no extradition treaty, Al Akhbar speculated that Egypt would use diplomatic channels to extradite Nasser, either via its embassy in Belgrade or through the Yugoslav embassy in Cairo.

The Nasserite weekly Sawt-Al Arab claimed Sunday that Khaled said in a telephone conversation from Belgrade that "I have faith in the Egyptian judiciary system" and would return at the start of the trial. No date has been set.



Khaled Abdul Nasser

Jordan reserves comment on new U.S. initiative, but welcomes Shultz visit

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — While Jordan refrains from making any comments on current American efforts to reactivate Middle East peace efforts but welcomes the scheduled visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Jordan and other countries of the area, according to the official position outlined by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin Monday.

Dudin reiterated that Jordan would only accept offers which lead to the convening of an international peace conference. "We are not with any reactivation of the peace process which does not lead to an international peace conference," Dudin told representatives of the local and international press during the weekly Monday circle, organised by Press and Publication Department Director-General Musa

Keilani.

Dudin made it clear that there was a Jordanian decision not to comment on any reports about the American initiative prior to Shultz' tour in the region, to leave it to American officials to disclose details about Washington's efforts to reactivate the peace process and to exchange views and information with all Arab governments and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"(The Jordanian position) is not to make any announcement because these are basically American moves and we will leave it Shultz to talk about them when he comes," he said. Dudin disclosed that following the visit made by American special envoy Richard Murphy to the area three weeks ago, Jordan expressed its desire to convey to the PLO the results of the American-Jordanian talks. Consequently, PLO Executive Commit-



Marwan Dudin

tee member Mahmoud Abbas visited Amman last week to exchange information and views with the Jordanian government, Dudin explained.

Dudin implied that neither Jordan and the PLO had changed their basic positions on the peace process and which led to Jordan's suspension of political coordination with the PLO. But he added

that contacts with the PLO "were expected to continue... particularly in the light of the two major developments which took place in the Arab arena i.e. the Amman extraordinary (Arab) summit (last November) and the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip."

Dudin expressed the view that the annulment of the basis for joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves — the Feb. 11, 1985 accord — by the PLO Executive Committee last April reflected "the various internal Palestinian pressures... and the PLO's anxiety to reunify the organisation." But since the accord was not abrogated by a Palestine National Council (PNC) decision "... in essence the accord is still there," Dudin said.

Asked about Jordan's position on the PLO call on Palestinians in the occupied territories to

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PLO reports 4 American 'nos' to Palestinians

TUNIS (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat disclosed Monday that U.S.-Palestinian contacts took place at the weekend before a planned Middle East tour by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Prominent Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories met Wat Cluervius, an envoy for U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, Saturday. Arafat told Reuters.

The PLO leader was speaking amid controversy surrounding a proposed meeting between Shultz and Palestinians during the secretary of state's visit to the region scheduled for this week.

The PLO, which rejects the latest U.S. Middle East peace proposals, has called on Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories not to meet Shultz. Palestinians boycotted talks with Shultz during his tour four months ago.

Washington does not recognise the PLO but two Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and Gaza, Hanna Siniora and Fayed Abu Rahme, met Shultz in Washington last month. In the latest contact, according

to Arafat, Cluervius said: "No" to self-determination for the Palestinian people, "no" to an independent state, "no" to the PLO and "no" to an independent Palestinian delegation."

Arafat, who did not name the Palestinians Cluervius met, condemned Washington's latest proposals as "slavery for my people."

He called for an end to Israel's occupation of Arab territories.

The PLO leader called for international protection for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, U.N. supervision of the territories and self-determination for the Palestinian people.

Arafat, speaking at PLO headquarters in Tunis, said the clandestine Palestinian leadership in the West Bank and Gaza had organised protests to greet Shultz.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa denied Sunday a report by the Nazareth weekly Al-Senara that Arafat had designated seven Palestinian notables to meet Shultz.

The PLO leader said a special

(Continued on page 5)

Soviet diplomat assails new American proposal

CAIRO (AP) — American ideas for Middle East peace, to be discussed by Secretary of State George Shultz on a regional tour this week, are unclear and aim only at ending short-term "painful problems," the Soviet Union's ambassador to Cairo said Monday.

"At a news conference for Cairo-based foreign correspondents, Gennady Zhuravlev criticised the proposals reportedly brought to the area by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy two weeks ago."

Reports from the United States and Israel say the American ideas call for an international meeting in April leading to an interim arrangement for Palestinian "autonomy" in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza. Negotiations would follow in December to decide the final legal status of the territories.

"When they (Americans) use the words international conference... it is not clear what kind the Washington administration would like to organise," Zhuravlev said.

Zhuravlev said the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the occu-

pied territories was forcing Washington's hand in the Middle East. "They are proposing not an international conference," he said, "but (trying) to find a solution to the problem as it is (the uprising)."

He said it would be more "practical and realistic" to keep in mind a final settlement, which he said desired by all countries in the region. Such a settlement, he added, "concerns Israel, too: to have peace and security."

Zhuravlev said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Shultz, currently having talks in Moscow, were discussing all ideas connected to a possible solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Shultz is scheduled to fly back to the United States Tuesday, then head for the Middle East Thursday to visit Israel, Egypt, Jordan, the occupied territories and possibly Syria and Saudi Arabia.

Commenting on ideas advanced by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during a visit to Washington last month, Zhuravlev said: "We support in full the

(Continued on page 3)

Uprising prompts Israelis to utter the unutterable — talk to the PLO

By Alan Elsner
Reuters

TEL AVIV — The 10-week-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza has prompted a small but growing number of Israelis to break a national taboo by calling for talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The call as yet is confined mainly to left-wingers and intellectuals. Few mainstream politicians, and none in the "national unity" coalition government, is prepared to support it.

But in a country whose population for decades has been told that the PLO was an evil, neo-Nazi organisation bent on annihilating the Zionist state, it represents a striking change.

"The wish for a local Palestinian representation detached from the PLO and more moderate than that body is merely delusion," said Yehoshafat Harkabi, a history professor at Jerusalem's Hebrew University and former government adviser on Arab affairs.

"Reality will force Israel to retreat from her political stand, to withdraw from the territories and to negotiate with the PLO."

Several hundred leading intellectuals packed into a Tel Aviv theatre last week, calling on the government to "talk peace with the Palestinians." Authors Amos Oz and A.B. Yehoshua were among those expressing support for a Palestinian state.

Such views are also surfacing more and more in the Israeli press. An opinion piece in Monday's Haaretz newspaper was headlined: "Why not a Palestinian state?"

Its author, Nehemia Stressler, argued: "There is only one solution — negotiate with (PLO Chairman) Yasser Arafat about establishing a Palestinian state."

"Like all solutions, it has its risks, but it is a possible solution, the best solution for Israel, better than what the United States wants for us."

A few years ago, such words would have been dismissed as heretical and their author condemned either as deranged or a traitor, or both.

To a majority of Israelis, especially supporters of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud party, the PLO is still an anathema. Likud leaders still refer to the Palestinian organisation as "the terrorist PLO" or "the murderous PLO."

But even they no longer deny the existence of a Palestinian people, as did Shamir's Likud predecessor, former prime minister Menachem Begin. He used to refer to the 1.5 million inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza as "the Arabs of the land of Israel."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in a recent interview: "They

decided they are a Palestinian people so they are a Palestinian people."

Peres has gone further than most politicians by advocating negotiations with Palestinian leaders in the territories who support the PLO, though not with Arafat.

"There is a difference between the PLO in the territories and the PLO abroad," he said. "We do not censor ideas. We censor weapons. Whoever comes with a gun in his pocket is unacceptable."

Other ministers speak of requiring the PLO to renounce its armed struggle and publicly accept United Nations Resolution 242, which recognises Israel's right to exist within secure borders, as a condition for negotiations.

The government has gone to extraordinary lengths to prevent Israelis from talking to the PLO. In 1986, it passed a law barring contacts with "terrorist organisations" and arrested four leftists who met Arafat. Their trial is still going on.

Media access

Israeli newspaper readers have more access to the views of PLO leaders than ever before. Last week, two newspapers published in full the text of a recent Arafat news conference.

In the past three weeks, the Jerusalem Post has published an exclusive interview with the PLO's Paris representative Ibrahim Souss and an open letter to Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin from a West Bank doctor, headlined: "Only talks with the PLO can give Israel security."

The Post also printed an article by philosopher and reform Rabbi David Hartman arguing the case for Palestinian self-determination on moral grounds.

"Our future security and moral well-being as a nation will be in jeopardy if we are indifferent to their desire for self-determination," he wrote.

Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev said last week he was worried by the number of Israelis telling him the same thing.

"I can't understand it. My own son-in-law also thinks this way. He thinks that if we sign an agreement with Arafat, we will be able to live with them and everything will be fine."

"It's not serious. The PLO and a Palestinian state is not a solution," he said.

Veteran Israeli West Bank reporter Yehuda Litani said: "For most of us, the PLO means terror and bloodshed, animosity and hatred. But it is time for us to understand that trying to bypass it could mean a further delay in any attempt to achieve a settlement."

Kidnapped Marine urges U.S., Israel to meet captors' demands

BEIRUT (R) — The kidnapers of Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins, an American U.N. official abducted in Lebanon, released a videotape Monday in which he pleaded with Washington and Israel to meet his captors' demands.

"In order to get me released the demands have to be met," said Higgins, a Marine officer in charge of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO).

He listed the demands as:

— Withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied territories in Lebanon.

— The release of all detained Mujahideen (strugglers) Lebanese and Palestinians from Khiam prison and from all other jails inside "the Zionist regime in occupied Palestine."

— Ending U.S. intervention in Lebanon and ceasing the despatch of delegations to the Middle East, "in order to surround the gains of the Islamic revolution in occupied Palestine."

Higgins, wearing a dark green sweater, looked gloomy and unshaven but in good condition. He appeared to be reading from a prepared statement.

"Reagan has to take responsibilities for the crimes he has committed against the oppressed people in the region," he said on the 70-second good quality videotape cassette.

The kidnapers, a group calling itself the "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World," accompanied the videotape with a type-written statement in Arabic.

It accused Higgins of being a spy and demanded the Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia should stop hunting for him and "understand

his spying role."

The demands listed by Higgins on the videotape were those made by the group in its first statement released Friday.

An Israeli-backed militia holds about 300 Arabs at the Khiam prison camp in South Lebanon.

In its latest statement, the group said: "We call on our brothers in Amal to understand the dangerous spying role Higgins was carrying out, profiting from the mission of the international observers."

The same statement was made in a text sent Sunday night to the independent An Nahar newspaper.

Three bearded gunmen snatched Higgins Wednesday near the port city of Tyre. He was the third U.N. official seized in the South this month. Gunmen kidnapped two Scandinavians from the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees on Feb. 5.

A total of 28 foreigners, including 10 Americans, are missing, believed kidnapped in Lebanon. Amal, Lebanon's largest Muslim militia, mounted a large-scale search for Higgins in the Tyre area. It stormed hideouts of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) and detained several members, including 10 Hizbollah members.

Amal's search triggered a round of fighting Sunday between Amal gunmen and Hizbollah

militants in a Bekaa Valley village. No casualties were reported.

The "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World" told Amal militia leader Nabih Berri to instruct his men to stop their "provocative measures against our strugglers and to stop storming their houses and confiscating their weapons."

Berri described Higgins' abduction as a challenge to his militia, the security of the South, and the role of the U.N. force there.

"Let him (Berri) know that the slogan of defending the United Nations could not be a cover to justify his enthusiasm to rescue an agent whom the Americans had acknowledged his suspicious role and big responsibilities in the Pentagon," the "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World" statement said.

Higgins, 43, was an assistant in former U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger's office before he was assigned last year as the head of UNTSO.

"We will chase every suspicious American who has no work except seeding discord and preparing for attacks against our people," it added.

Sheikh Abdul Munim Mhana, a senior cleric close to Hizbollah, said in Tyre Sunday that Higgins was smuggled out of South Lebanon and could be released if Washington negotiated his freedom and met demands by the captors.

The group has demanded the release of Arabs held by Israel, an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon and an end to what it called U.S. interference in

Lebanon.

Communiqués by the hijackers of the American TWA plane to Beirut in 1985 were signed by the same group.

Peggy Say criticises U.S. administration

In Washington, the sister of the longest-held hostage in Lebanon says the United States is no closer to securing her brother's release than it was three years ago when he was kidnapped.

Peggy Say, who has worked unfailingly for freedom for her brother Terry Anderson, said Sunday that officials in President Reagan's administration indicated recently that no progress has been made to win his release.

"I was at a State Department meeting last week. I spent a week in Washington trying to find out what, if anything, was happening, and the statement made to me was that we were no closer to resolution than we had been three years previously," Mrs. Say said on a CBS Television News programme.

Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press, was abducted March 16, 1985. He is among nine Americans being held hostage in Lebanon.

Reagan said Thursday he wants "to rescue" Higgins, but officials played down the idea of a military mission to gain the officer's release.

Mrs. Say charged that a double standard exists in which U.S. officials actively tried to locate Higgins, but have not been as vigorous in trying to find her brother. That standard forced her to speak out, Mrs. Say said.

Khartoum reports killing 105 rebels

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan said Sunday night that troops escorting river barges carrying relief supplies down the White Nile to the famine-hit southern town of Malakal repulsed two rebel attacks on the boats, killing 105 guerrillas.

State television quoted a Sudanese military spokesman as saying that after attacks Friday and Saturday by rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the barges, believed to number 36, continued their journey.

The spokesman said that a European fighting with the rebels was killed in Saturday's attack, but SPLA guerrillas threw his body into the River Nile.

News of the attacks on the barges, which left the central town of Kosti on Feb. 13, followed a report on the clandestine SPLA radio Saturday that its forces destroyed seven of the barges in an ambush, sinking two of them.

The rebel broadcast, monitored in Khartoum, said SPLA guerrillas were pursuing four other barges which survived the ambush undamaged. It claimed that the boats were carrying supplies for army garrisons in Upper Nile region, of which Malakal is the capital.

The SPLA, led by former army Col. John Garang, has fought government troops in southern Sudan since 1983 to end what it calls the political domination of the Muslim majority over Sudan's ethnic and religious minorities.

In the past Sudan has alleged that Cuban and East German military advisers were helping the rebels, but the accusations have never been substantiated.

The rebels have ambushed such barges in the past, which Western defence sources in Khartoum believe are used to carry arms and ammunition for troops in the Upper Nile region in addition to their cargo of relief and commercial supplies.

Malakal, a town of about 120,000 people located on the White Nile 700 kilometres south of Khartoum, has been reported in recent weeks to be facing acute food shortages which have caused the deaths of at least 37 people from malnutrition and disease.

The Khartoum government has denied knowledge of any deaths from starvation despite a flurry of reports on the worsening conditions in Malakal.

One such report, by a Catholic bishop who heads Upper Nile's relief committee, said the town was on the brink of disaster and that many people there were close to death.

The Khartoum daily Al Raya said Sunday that many inhabitants of the Upper Nile region have been driven to eat wild vegetation while others joined the SPLA in the hope that they would be fed.

Survey finds Israeli troops frustrated, angry by revolt in occupied territories

TEL AVIV (R) — An army survey made public Monday revealed that 70 per cent of Israel's soldiers were angry and frustrated by a Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Chief Army Psychologist Colonel Shlomo Dover told Israel Radio most soldiers still believed they should serve in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip despite 10 weeks of anti-Israeli rebellion, though a sizeable minority were less sure.

"There is no doubt that dispersing demonstrations and maintaining order are not the same sort of activities the army has trained for or been involved in all the years," he said.

He added: "I believe close to 60 per cent believe they must continue to serve in the current situation."

The army has been condemned worldwide for beating protesters and firing bullets to quash the uprising. At least 61 Palestinians

have been killed and hundreds wounded since the revolt erupted on Dec. 9.

Dover said soldiers had a problem knowing how much force to use to break up demonstrations, but maintained that violent behaviour for its own sake was the exception among troops rather than the rule.

"It must be remembered the soldiers are 15, 16, 18 hours on their feet, and that itself would be a serious problem in awful weather, in rain, to carry out an activity that is unpleasant to all of us," the psychologist said.

Israel Radio reported the army survey found 70 per cent of the soldiers expressed anger and frustration over the situation.

The report found 65 per cent of all soldiers behaved "coarsely" toward residents, but 70 per cent believed they acted fairly. The survey found 92 per cent fully supported the judgment of their commanders.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told soldiers Sunday night that Israel's army was facing a new development.

"We've been subjected to wars, we've been subjected to fighting terror and today a new challenge — civil war..." Rabin said.

Major General Amram Mitzna, West Bank area army commander, said soldiers took out all their anger on those they caught. But he added:

"We are trying to fight it by explaining the orders and instructions to officers and to soldiers themselves. We will have to fight this for a long time," Mitzna told soldiers over the weekend.

"There are those who said the moment the genie of using force came out of the bottle, it is very difficult to control. It grows and grows. I do believe we will succeed in controlling and reducing or ending these deviations," Mitzna said.

Peres again denies being offered bribes

WASHINGTON (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday he sent a letter on a proposed Iraqi pipeline to U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese but denied he was offered bribes in exchange for supporting the project.

Peres, in a U.S. television interview, said any suggestions that he or his Labour Party had been offered bribes over the deal were foolish.

The pipeline proposal recently came to light after special prosecutor Robert McKay, who is investigating Meese's financial affairs, was reported to have

found a document in the attorney general's files about the pipeline.

A friend of Meese's proposed the pipeline but the proposal fell through in early 1986. Plans called for the pipeline to run through Jordan to Aqaba port, and the backers wanted Israel's assurance that it would not sabotage the project.

Sources close to McKay's investigation said the document found by the prosecutor showed that payments to an Israeli official had been considered in exchange for support for the project. Offering such payments is against U.S. law, and an attorney

general could be charged with failing to act when he learns of an intended criminal act.

Meese recently held a news conference in which he categorically denied he had done anything improper in the pipeline scheme.

Peres has said in the past that the Israeli government agreed to support the programme but denied being offered any bribes. He repeated that denial Sunday and said he had sent a letter to Meese on the subject.

"Nobody ever approached me," he said. "I don't know what somebody was scheming behind my back."

Vassiliou elected new Cyprus president

NICOSIA (R) — New Cyprus President George Vassiliou pledged Monday to open a fresh political era for the divided island after a narrow election victory over veteran conservative Glafkos Clerides.

Millionaire Vassiliou, 56, who campaigned as an independent with the backing of the Communist AKEL and Socialist EDEK parties, won 51.63 per cent of the vote.

"We want to give the country new breath and the renewal it needs to progress. We have a new approach to politics," he said.

But local press comment quickly noted the thin margin of victory in the run-off election Sunday could mean he will face heavy weather in dealing with the island's problems.

The principal challenge will be the breakdown "Turkish-Cypriot republic" in the north, declared nine years after Turkish troops moved in during a short-lived coup by a faction of Greek Cypriots in 1974.

Vassiliou, who will be sworn in on Feb. 28, said one of his first acts would be to set up a National Council to deal with the problem.

But he was initially reluctant to spell out specific policy goals.

The market research executive, a political unknown just 12 months ago, repeated appeals for unity made during campaigning.

"We should not divide the people between winners and losers," he said. He also stressed he would not necessarily toe the Communist line.

"This is not an AKEL victory. It is a victory for the Cypriot people," he said. The AKEL newspaper Haravghi echoed the sentiment Monday.

Clerides, 67, whose previous bid for the presidency was beaten by incumbent Spyros Kyprianou, said on Monday:

"Despite the fact that the difference is small, there is no doubt that (Vassiliou) won the elections and as democrats we have to respect the judgment of the people."

Final voting figures gave Vassiliou 51.63 per cent of the poll and Clerides 48.37 per cent.

Clerides, noting nearly 49 per cent of the electorate had not voted for Vassiliou, called on him to form a government of national

unity including all parties.

Vassiliou has said he is willing to meet Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash to discuss reunification of the island, something Kyprianou was not prepared to do at least until Turkish troops were withdrawn.

Kyprianou, criticised during campaigning for failing to resolve the "impasse" over reunification during 11 years in office, was beaten into third place in the first round of voting last week.

President-Elect Vassiliou told reporters he was very moved by his election.

"It doesn't happen every day," he said.

Turks react coolly

Turks reacted coolly to the election of the new president of Cyprus and one prominent commentator said he doubted it would bring any quick resolution of the Cyprus problem.

Turkish Foreign Ministry sources said there would be no immediate official reaction and the news of Vassiliou's victory arrived too late for most Monday newspapers.

Former Blue Angels leader to lead Gulf force

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — The U.S. Navy is preparing for a change of command that will put a former leader of the navy's Blue Angels jet acrobatic team in charge of escort and patrol operations in the Gulf.

Rear Adm. Anthony A. Less, a 50-year-old career aviator who headed the elite unit in the mid-1970s, will become commanding officer of the navy's Middle East Force (MEF) in ceremonies next Saturday aboard a new flagship, USS Coronado.

Less replaces Rear Adm. Harold J. Bensen, who as commander of the MEF since July 1986, oversaw last year's buildup that followed President Ronald Reagan's decision to re-register 11 Kuwaiti oil tankers under the American flag as protection from attacks by Iran.

Under Bensen, the force nearly tripled in size, from about six to 17 warships, and has just recently been cut back to 16 in a Pentagon move to trim slightly the size and cost of its naval commitment in the Gulf region.

Monday marked the start of the eighth month of U.S. escort operations for the Kuwaiti vessels. Since the supertanker Bridgeton struck a mine, believed laid by Iran, on the first upbound convoy last July 24, the navy has escorted 34 other convoys without mishap.

Two convoys, one British and one French, sailed into the southern Gulf Sunday, according to witnesses.

The British destroyer Gloucester escorted three tankers and a freighter through the Strait of Hormuz, followed shortly by a French tanker, escorted by the frigate Drogue.

Associated Press photographer Greg English said the only U.S. warship visible in the area was the missile frigate John A. Moore, one of those used by the navy to escort the Kuwaiti tankers.

An Iranian C-130 scout plane, which is frequently airborne in the area, according to U.S. officers, was operating over the southern Gulf as an Iranian supply ship, calling itself a "Man O' war," interrogated passing commercial vessels along a (32-

kilometre) track off the coast of the United Arab Emirates.

The Iranians frequently stop and search vessels they suspect of carrying cargo for arch-enemy Iraq, and also attack neutral ships in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iran's own oil shipping in the Gulf. The two have been at war for 7½ years.

The last such raid reported by Iraq was last Tuesday, and no ship attacks by Iran have been reported since Feb. 11.

However, Baghdad reported in a brief communique Monday that its air force jets destroyed the strategic Keshwar Bridge, north of the Iranian city of Andimeshk, in a raid at mid-morning (0715 GMT), and all returned safely.

Iraq to continue raids

The report, carried by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), said Iraq's air force would continue "smashing strategic and economic targets of the Iranian regime to make it understand that it would not continue the war and have, simultaneously, its vital enterprises intact."

44 Filipinos die in Gulf war

MANILA (R) — At least 44 Filipino sailors have been killed and 35 injured in the Gulf in more than seven years of fighting between Iran and Iraq, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration said Monday.

A spokesman said the casualties included 21 crewmen who were reported missing and feared dead in attacks on tankers and other vessels in the waterway.

Velayati in Jakarta

JAKARTA (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Jakarta Monday for a three-day visit.

Velayati, accompanied by 10 diplomats and officials, said in a brief arrival statement he was returning last year's visit by Indonesia's Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumatmadja.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
15:30	Programme One
15:50	Koraa
15:55	Programme review
15:55	Children's programmes
16:50	World Sales Sports Bay
17:00	In Search of the Past
17:20	Local programme
17:45	Basketball
19:00	Message from Oman
19:15	Local programme
19:45	Programme review and varieties
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:30	Cultural programme
22:30	Varities programme
23:00	News summary in Arabic
23:10	Close down
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Comme Tu Veux Mon cheri (French series)
19:00	News in French
19:15	French varieties: Un DB de plus
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varities
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	No Place Like Home (comedy)
21:00	Stand by — Light Camera! Action!
22:00	News in English
22:30	Murder She Wrote
23:10	Three's Company
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & party on 95.0 KHz. SW Tel: 774111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	News
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Just a Minute
10:00	Good Old Days
10:30	30 Minute Theatre
11:00	News Summary
11:30	Pop Session
12:00	News Bulletin
12:30	Instrumentals
13:00	15 Minute Theatre
13:30	Concert Hour
14:00	News Summary
14:30	Old Favorites
15:00	Pop Talk
15:30	Pop Session
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Instrumentals
17:00	Old Favorites
17:30	Pop Talk
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Top Twenty
19:00	Music
19:30	News Desk
20:00	Date with a Star

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
★ Art exhibition about the works of German artist Horst Janssen at the Petra Park Gallery in Wadi Saqra (until Feb. 26).	
★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Kewani at the Housing Bank Gallery.	
★ A photo exhibition about architecture in Spain at the Spanish Cultural Centre (Feb. 22 to March 3).	
★ An art exhibition by Mohammad Al Jalous at the Alia Art Gallery (until Feb. 27).	
★ An exhibition of prints by Rima Farah at the Gallery of the Jordan International Hotel (until Feb. 29).	
★ An exhibition to commemorate German composers Heinrich Schütz and Johann Bach at Yarmouk University (until March 3).	
FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL	
★ Tonight's film "Le Lien du Crime" at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Feb. 25).	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6010267	
American Centre .. Tel. 64571	
British Council .. Tel. 631078	
French Cultural Centre .. Tel. 637009	
Goethe Institute .. Tel. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre .. Tel. 634049	
Spanish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 639777	
Turkish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 651595	
Haya Arts Centre .. Tel. 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. .. Tel. 641793	
Amman Municipal Library .. Tel. 637111	
Univ. of Jordan Library .. Tel. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
★ "Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 5320-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
09:15	Dubai (RJ)
09:30	Kuwait (RJ)
09:30	Cairo (RJ)
09:30	Jeddah (RJ)
09:30	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:10	Larnaca (RJ)
17:55	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:15	Dubai, Brussels (RJ)
18:45	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
18:15	Istanbul (RJ)
19:40	Tripoli (RJ)
19:45	Rome (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

13:20	Moscow (SU)
13:40	Bucharest (RO)
13:40	Kuwait (KU)
14:45	Tripoli (LN)
15:00	Riyadh (SV)
16:35	Cairo (MS)
17:45	Rome (AZ)
19:15	Dubai (EK)
20:10	Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
00:30	London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:00	Agaba (RJ)
08:45	Rome (RJ)
10:45	Tripoli (RJ)
11:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30	Belgrade, Madrid (RJ)
12:00	Geneva, London (RJ)
12:45	Istanbul (RJ)
13:00	Larnaca (RJ)
15:40	Kuwait (RJ)
15:40	Dhahran (RJ)
20:15	Agaba (RJ)
2	
20:45	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:15	Damascus (RJ)
22:00	Bangkok (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:30	Beirut (ME)
14:50	Moscow (SU)

15:00	Kuwait (KU)
15:10	Bucharest (RO)
15:45	Kuwait (LN)
16:40	Riyadh (SV)
17:20	Cairo (MS)
18:30	Damascus (AZ)
20:15	Dubai (EK)

PRAYER TIMES

06:40	Fajr
06:47	Duha (Sunrise) Duba
11:09	Dhuhr
15:41	Asr
17:31	Maghreb
18:49	Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Monday rates

<i>Local sell/buy rates in ffs</i>	
Belgian franc	\$4.71 179.6
Dutch guilder	176.4 179.9
French franc	38.6 59.7
Italian lira	26.9 27.4
Japanese yen (for 100)	259.6 265.3
Swedish crown	35.71 56.8
Swiss franc	241.5 246.6
U.K. sterling pound	500.0 605.3
U.S. dollar	337.8 343.3
W. German mark	197.8 202.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

As a result of the depression centred over north of Cyprus, the Kingdom is likely to be in the grip of a cold front, causing scattered showers and mild snow falls in the hilly areas. In Agaba, the winds will be southerly and rough seas.

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	3 / 6
Agaba	0 / 10
Desert	0 / 10
Jordan Valley	9 / 13

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 11, Agaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 17 per cent, Agaba 41 per cent.

RIFAI MEETS HANANIA:

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai received separately Monday Jordan Medical Institution Director General Lieutenant General Dawoud Hananiyya and the newly appointed Yugoslav ambassador to Jordan.

ISLAMIC CENTRE: Chairman of the Royal Commission on Jerusalem Affairs Akram Zu'aiter Monday left for Beirut to preside over the meetings of the Beirut-based Islamic Centre's board of trustees which will start Wednesday. The board groups prominent Arab and Muslim figures and cares to the children of Arab and Muslim martyrs.

BEE INDUSTRY: Minister of Agriculture Marwan Al Hmoud will open Thursday, a scientific day on honey industry, bee diseases and problems facing bee breeders in Jordan, at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture. A number of public and private organisations, which include U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Jordan Economic and Social Organisation for Retired Servicemen (JESORS) and a number of bee-breeders who achieved remarkable successes, will take part in the scientific day.

HAIJ HASSAN: Minister of Transportation and Communications, Khalid Al Haj Hassan met separately, with ambassadors of Italy and Pakistan Monday. During the meetings he discussed relations concerning transportation, communication, postal services and means of improving bilateral cooperation.

TABAA MEETS ENVOYS: Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply, Hamdi Tabaa, met Monday with Syrian ambassador to Amman, during which they discussed bilateral relations between the two countries in matters relating to commerce and industry and means of improving cooperation. In a separate meeting Tabaa discussed with the Italian ambassador to Amman common interests and cooperation.

AGRICULTURE: Ministry of Agriculture Secretary General Dr. Salem Al Lawzi Monday discussed with Chinese Ambassador in Amman Zhang, Zhen boosting existing bilateral cooperation in agricultural fields.

FOLKLORE SEMINAR: The Faculty of Literature at the University of Jordan is organising a seminar on folklore literature in Jordan Monday at the Khalid Ibn Ahmad auditorium at the university. Participating in the seminar are Mr. Husni Fariz, Dr. Khalil Alkharasha, with Dr. Hani Al Amad as rapporteur. The seminar is open to all interested.

BABY WITH TEETH: A Jordanian woman has given birth to a baby boy with teeth. The father of the baby, Mahmoud Rafiq Al Selwadi, has expressed pleasure over the new born and has named him Alaa.

SUICIDE: A Briton committed suicide Saturday in one of the leading hotels in Amman and investigations are continuing to find out the motives behind the incident, according to reports published Monday in the local papers. The Briton identified as Richard K. 39, was found dead in his room in the hotel. The Hotel Jordan Intercontinental, where the incident occurred, reported the suicide to the concerned authorities and the criminal investigation team as well as Amman Prosecutor General rushed to the scene. The blood-stained body was found in a sitting position in the bathroom. Further examination revealed serious injuries in the wrist and the head. The body has been transferred to Al Bashir Hospital for autopsy and to determine the cause of death.

YEMENI TEAM: A Yemeni educational delegation currently on a visit to Jordan Monday paid a visit to the education department in Balqa Governorate. They were briefed on the progress of education in the governorate. The guest delegation also visited the schoolbook museum which contains old books taught in Jordan since the founding of the Kingdom.

MANPOWER TALKS: Yarmouk University will take part in a three-day conference on manpower which will be held in Cairo next week. Dr. Zuhair Al Sabagh and Dr. Musa Al Rawabdeh, both from the university, will submit two working papers to the conference on the structure of manpower and brain drain in Jordan.

HEALTH CONFERENCE: Minister of Health, Zaid Hamzah attended Monday a meeting of the preparatory committee for the twentieth Arab health ministers conference, due to be held in Amman on March 3, during which they discussed the preparations for the conference.

3 contracts awarded for King Abdullah Mosque

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Monday awarded three contracts to local companies to carry out the final phase of the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Mosque in Amman.

According to the first contract, one of the local firms will build a new minaret at a point where the parliament and the Police Academy streets meet.

Apart from the 60-metre-tall minaret, the company will build a canopy covering the entrance to the mosque and the conference hall. The company will also build the fountains at the entrance quarter and a car park.

The contract includes enlargement of the 260-metre pavements surrounding the mosque.

The first contract is worth JD 200,000.

The second contract, worth JD 30,000, provides for installing iron grill for doors and windows and for brass ornaments to be added.

The third contract is for setting up flower beds around the mosque.

The whole project is to be completed in seven months, according to the contracts.

The ministry had announced a tender for providing carpets for the mosque and is expected to announce the results in two weeks time.

According to officials, the ministry will in the next month announce a tender for carrying out the second phase of the King Abdullah Mosque project which also includes the installation of decorations, lighting, and other related work.

The second phase of the project, is expected to be completed by October 1988, in time for the official opening of the Prophet Mohammad's Birthday, the officials added.

Ajlouni, Omani envoy discuss tourism

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni met here Monday with Omani's Ambassador to Jordan Bashir Ibn Faraj to discuss prospects of bilateral cooperation in tourism affairs.

Ajlouni said that his ministry was willing to offer training to Omani personnel and students in hotel management and related fields.

He said Jordan will provide the Omani with expertise in tourism related affairs, and in exchanging visits by tourist groups to either country.

The minister noted that six Omani trainees will be among the



REGENT VISITS PRIME MINISTRY: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday visits the Prime Minister's office. The Regent met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to whom he passed directives on a number of matters. The meeting was attended by Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh.

Polar front to hit Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is affected by a cold polar front, moving from Northern Europe towards the Eastern Mediterranean Region, and accompanied by a depression now centred over north east Turkey, the department of meteorology said Monday.

The department said in a statement that as a result of this front, another depression has been created over Cyprus thus increasing the intensity of the cold air blowing towards this region.

The cold front was expected to affect Jordan Monday evening, with rains falling in the northern and central regions of the country and snow falling on regions which are higher than 900 metres above sea level, the statement said.

On Tuesday, the country will witness a noticeable drop in temperatures and more rain, accompanied by strong gusts of wind, the statement added.

CAEU seeks world support for Palestinian uprising

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Monday sent cables to various world organisations: and regional and international economic groupings, drawing their attention to the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

The cables spoke in detail of Israel's inhuman treatment of Arab inhabitants under its rule, which the cables said "constitute a flagrant violation of human rights and international principles and laws."

These atrocities have exceeded those committed by the Nazi rulers of Germany in World War II," the cables said.

The cables, sent by CAEU's secretary general, appealed to all world organisations to support the Arab people's rights in their homeland, help end Israel's criminal actions and help the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area.

He also briefed the envoy on measures taken by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and the Zakat Fund to extend financial help to the Palestinian people under occupation and to Palestinian students in the East Bank universities.

The ambassador conveyed to the minister an invitation to visit Oman and deliver a lecture at a religious ceremony to be held there on March 6.

Sheikh Khayyat briefed the ambassador on Jordan's efforts to support the steadfastness of the

graduating batch of students to be turned out from the Jordan Hotel Training Institute in Amman in the coming few days.

Envoy meets Khayyat

The Omani ambassador later met with Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, with whom he reviewed the situation in the occupied Arab territories in the light of the ongoing uprising there.

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Jordan, N. Yemen begin bilateral cooperation talks

SANAA (Petra) — Jordan and North Yemen opened meetings here Monday designed to promote their bilateral cooperation in economic, social, cultural, health and technical fields.

Teams from both sides, led by their Foreign Ministers Taher Al Masri and Abdul Karim Al Iryani respectively are meeting in implementation of resolutions passed by the Joint Jordanian-North Yemeni Higher Committee during a visit to North Yemen by His Majesty King Hussein in 1985.

Upon arrival in Sanaa early Monday, Masri said he was carrying a message to North Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh from His Majesty King

Hussein, dealing with the current situation in the Arab region and efforts on the international scene in search of a just and durable settlement in the Middle East, through an international peace conference.

He said that the joint committee meetings seek to attain higher degrees of cooperation between the two countries in all fields.

Iryani, who was at the airport in Sanaa to greet Masri, said that

the meeting manifests the true and strong relationship between Jordan and N. Yemen, and expressed hope that the meetings will result in further cooperation between the two sides in all fields.

The joint committee had held a meeting in Amman in February 1987 which, the minister said, had achieved fruitful results and opened new avenues of cooperation between the two sides.

At present, a Jordanian technical delegation is in North Yemen to explore areas where skilled Jordanians can be employed, especially in education, engineering and medical services.

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Mafraq seeks sites for new government buildings

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Mafraq governor, Fayed Abbadi, headed a meeting Monday with managers of different department in the area during which they discussed allocating land for building new government departments.

Abbadi said that during the meeting, they discussed the cost of these buildings, and the plans already prepared for their construction.

During the meeting they also discussed the cost of development projects carried out in the area last year which he said came up to JD 22 million.

In a separate development, the Mafraq Agricultural Department has held five agricultural seminars during the past month and its employees made 33 different awareness tours.

The department has also built five different tanks for storing water as part of a highland development plan, and has planted 40,000 trees in different parts of the governorate. The department also has made free distribution of 400,000 trees to farmers in the area.

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Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Sunday delivers a lecture at Mu'ta University (Petra photo)

Lawzi stresses commitment towards supporting Arabs under occupation

KARAK (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi said Sunday that Jordan remains committed to supporting the Arab people of the occupied territories, and will continue to extend all possible support to the Palestinian people, to help strengthen their steadfastness, in the face of Israel's expansionist designs and plans.

Lawzi, in a lecture delivered at Mu'ta University near here, late Sunday, said Jordan, which is totally committed to Arab causes, will be ready to offer any help that can contribute towards enhancing the freedom and safeguarding the dignity of the Arab nation.

In his lecture Lawzi also spoke about the Amman summit meeting held last November, and said His Majesty King Hussein was instrumental to its success.

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In his

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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A thoughtful step

THE recent amendment to the Press and Publication Law endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament, which grants a right of appeal against any government decision to cancel a periodical's licence, is a commendable act by the Parliament. It is also proof that our parliamentary system is vigorous and dynamic. Prior to the enactment of the amendment, the government has enjoyed absolute power not only to grant or to deny licences to local newspapers and journals but also to revoke them.

There is certainly an element of victory for the freedom of the press in this move by Parliament. One would hope that this process of liberalising our press sector will continue in a responsible and balanced manner. We certainly look to the day when the whole process of granting a licence to a newspaper or journal will also become more flexible. By broadening the scope of the right of appeal to cover all the stages of the licensing process of a newspaper, we would, in effect, reaffirm our faith and confidence in our judiciary, which is, after all, the third pillar on which the whole edifice of government rests.

Granted, we do not wish our concept of freedom of the press to go as far as licensing, for example, pornography or a manipulated and "hired" press. Jordan, country and people, should forever cling to its ideals, sense of morality, ethics and positive traditional values, and make them serve as the "guardian angels" over our press or any other endeavour, state or private. We certainly call for integrity, and moral and intellectual courage, in journalism in Jordan; for without such standards, no press can serve its society and people in a constructive manner. The right of appeal introduced to our legislation on press and publication can offer us now an expanded opportunity to make sure that the overriding public good will continue to guide and motivate the press and publication sector. We join all those forces of moderation and common sense who have rejoiced at this action by the Parliament, and commend our representatives for taking such a thoughtful step.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Moscow talks centre on uprising

SOVIET-American talks began in Moscow in earnest for tackling world issues including the Middle East situation, in the wake of the three-month old uprising in the occupied Arab lands. These talks were prompted mainly by the uprising of the Palestinian people and the whole move began with visits to the Middle East by Philip Habib and Richard Murphy, the two American envoys who discussed the question of the Arab-Israeli conflict with leaders of the region. What we should stress here is that both the United States, and the Soviet Union as well as the European countries bear a special responsibility towards the Arab-Israeli conflict and should therefore work towards a just and durable solution. Perhaps it is now more than anytime in the past that the international community has become unanimous on the need for resolving the problem through an international conference in which all the parties concerned can take part. But such a solution can never come about without serious and sincere efforts on the part of the superpowers now holding talks in Moscow, and peace cannot come about to this region without the participation of all parties with guarantees from the major world powers.

Al Dustour: Brotherly message

KING Hussein's message to his brother King Fahd of Saudi Arabia carried by the prime minister to Riyadh Sunday is part of the ongoing consultations between Jordan and Saudi Arabia on means of resolving the Palestine problem and concerting Arab efforts for serving Arab national causes. Jordanian-Saudi coordination assumes an added significance, coming in the current circumstances and in the light of developments on the Middle East scene. Reestablishing Arab solidarity and unifying Arab ranks is instrumental at this stage for giving momentum to the process of finding peace and security in the Arab region. Both Jordan and Saudi Arabia shoulder serious and major responsibilities that required them to work in concert and in total coordination to enable the Arabs to form a powerful force, capable of handling all issues and confronting all challenges. There is no doubt that the Palestinian uprising and its results are at the heart of the current Jordanian consultations and contacts with other Arab leaders. We look forward to the formation of an active Arab force that can lend support for this uprising and help the Palestinians realise their aspired goals.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan rallies Arabs

JORDAN's current moves on the Arab diplomatic scene is clearly aimed to concert Arab stands in the face of the current challenges in the Arab region. Jordan's credibility has been strengthened with the success of the Arab summit meeting, and also with the support this country won from the European Community countries for moves towards a solution of the Middle East problem through an international conference in which all concerned parties will have the chance to take part in search for a just peace. As Jordan moves ahead with its campaign towards peace, the Middle East is about to receive U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz whose mission largely depends on the ideas he is carrying and Israel's attitude. The Arabs for their part are agreed on the need for holding an international conference to find a lasting peace, and they see in the Palestinian people's uprising a natural reaction to Israel's continued occupation and oppression. The Arabs cannot accept the formula of self autonomy because it is short of a durable and just solution. This should be understood by the United States which ought to take a more realistic stand vis-a-vis the Middle East crisis.

The View From Second Circle

Choose your weapon, George: Justice or flat tires

By Rami G. Khouri

United States Secretary of State George Shultz visits the Middle East this week hoping to prod the Arab-Israeli peace-making process. From what we have heard and read of the latest American approach to Mideast peace-making, the brings a package of ideas and approaches, most of whose component parts have, on their own, been floated previously, and rejected by one or the other key protagonists. The visit has drawn considerable Arab scepticism, but it may have some positive elements which should be appreciated and built upon by the Arabs, and particularly by the Palestinians.

The last time Shultz tried his hand at shuttle diplomacy — in Lebanon in May 1983 — he produced a naive and inequitable accord which would have given Israel the political gains it was unable to secure through its invasion and occupation of southern Lebanon. That accord was scuttled by Syrian and Lebanese nationalist opposition. Israel eventually withdrew from Lebanon after the Lebanese nationalist resistance fought the Israelis, and made the cost of occupation too high in human, economic and psychological terms. A determined Arab resistance effort — with the necessary casualties, suffering and human sacrifice that are an axiomatic part of national liberation and the honour of entire communities — produced a better Israeli withdrawal than the one which Shultz and Israel tried to impose on an emaciated Lebanese government.

Today, the regional map — particularly its Israeli-Palestinian component — is rather changed from 1983. The question is: Does Shultz understand this, and has his attitude changed along with the times? Or, is he simply proposing negotiating formulae that are only — to quote the American writer Larry King's description of the presidential candidate Richard Nixon in 1968 — retreats of an old flat tire?

What positive elements may we perceive in the American approach this month? The fact that the United States initially flatly ruled out an international conference to negotiate Mideast peace, but now says it is prepared to accept an international conference as one element of a broader peace-making dynamic, is a positive development. It indicates a capacity for change and a willingness to compromise that is constructive, and potentially important. If such a trend is a harbinger of things to come — and open-mindedness has always been a very strong American national trait — then it behooves us to keep pressing the Americans on the human equity and political logic of the international conference proposal: the proposal is, after all, accepted by all the Arab parties, the Soviet Union, the EEC, the United Nations General Assembly, half the Israeli government, and the rest of the world. If Shultz comes bearing indications of a capacity for further realism, composure and rationality on the part of the American government, it would seem to me that the Arabs, particularly the Palestinians, should persist in

convincing the Americans not only of the logic of the international conference idea, but also of its inevitability.

The other, more important, development that I see in Shultz's Mideast visit this week pertains to the United States' own perception of a peace process, and of the Arab parties that must be involved in it to make it meaningful. For much of the late 1970s and the first half of the 1980s, most senior American diplomatic officials, notably Messrs. Brzezinski, Haig and Shultz, floated negotiating ideas and simultaneously told the Palestinians and the PLO that those were the best and last peace process proposals that would be offered; we frequently heard these fellows say things such as "bye-bye PLO," or "the PLO should not miss the peace train" — meaning that if the PLO did not go along with the negotiating proposals of the day, that new proposals would not be forthcoming, or that new proposals would simply ignore the Palestinians and their chosen leadership.

Shultz's visit today suggests otherwise. It suggests, rather, that the Americans were bluffing, and were making diplomatically apocalyptic threats and warnings that were far beyond either their right to formulate or their capacity to enforce. If the Palestinians have missed so many trains, what is the meaning of Shultz's latest journey to the region offering yet another train for all to ponder? Its meaning is that Arab composure and patience have paid political dividends; and particularly that Palestinian adherence to the demand of the recognition of Palestinian national self-determination as a prerequisite for starting a negotiating process was, and continues to be, correct. Our pan-Arab consensus and pre-negotiating position is fair and reasonable: If we are asked to recognise the existence and security of the state of Israel, as symbolised by U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, in order to start a peace process, then Israel and the United States should simultaneously recognise that the reciprocal right of Palestinian national self-determination is an equally valid counter-basis for peace talks. Everything else is negotiable: Frontiers, security arrangements, interim stages of Israeli withdrawal and Palestinian self-rule, the negotiating forum, the representation of the Palestinians, the ultimate status and political configuration of a Palestinian entity, and anything else that may be put on the table. But the essential quality of the national rights of the Palestinians — like the sovereignty and security of the state and people of Israel — is not up for bargaining, negotiations or compromise. This was the lesson which the Americans learned in South Lebanon, as it is the lesson the Soviet Union has finally learned in Afghanistan. It remains for the Israelis and Americans to learn it in Palestine.

The three-month-old uprising of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza adds a new element to the peace-making equation, but it does not alter the fundamental principles that are required for

a genuine negotiating process to start. The promise of an Israeli withdrawal from parts of the occupied territories, while the ultimate national rights of the Palestinians are assigned to a future negotiation in which the Israelis have veto power, is unrealistic and unworkable. The aim of a peace process should be to negotiate the application of Palestinian national rights and the recognition of Israeli national rights. It is not to effect a partial withdrawal, or to end the violence of the last three months.

The truth is — whether the Americans accept it or not — that the violence and manifestation of national identity of the Palestinians have prompted the United States to re-engage itself in the search for a negotiated Arab-Israeli peace settlement. Far from half-baked American proposals being the Palestinians' ticket to a peace process, it is Palestinian violence that is the ticket for the United States to attempt to re-establish its credibility as an impartial mediator. Shultz does not come to the region to stop the stone-throwing. He comes because the stone-throwing has compelled him to work for a balanced and equitable peace, one that would respect the national identity and political rights of both Palestinians and Israelis.

The challenge of the day for the Palestinians and the other Arab parties is to maintain our composure, to persist with our peace proposals. The sight of American secretaries of state shuttling around the holy land trying to disentangle the children of Abraham is no longer novel. But it is important, and it could be very productive and constructive. We should welcome Shultz and continue talking to him, and repeat the position we have espoused since the 1982 Fez Arab summit: The Arabs are prepared to negotiate a permanent peace with Israel based on the recognition of the twin principles of the sovereignty and security of Israel and of the Palestinians' right of national self-determination. We will negotiate diligently to this end; we will compromise on procedures and modalities, we will meet the enemy half-way, we will be flexible, merciful and forgiving. But we cannot settle for less than the exercise of the national rights of the Palestinians.

If the time is not ripe for a negotiated settlement, we will wait. That is a verdict which history, not Shultz, will make. If he wants to promote unbalanced and inequitable accords, as he did in Lebanon, let him do so to his heart's content. If he wants to peddle old retreats of flat tires, or launch bogus peace trains, he will find the same thing he found in Lebanon earlier this decade. He will only fail, and he will be ignored by history, because he himself would have ignored the fundamental lesson of history: That peace reigns where justice has been done. If Shultz wants to promote genuine peace based on equal justice for both Palestinians and Israelis, he will find the Arabs, particularly the Palestinians, eager and sincere to cooperate.

Israeli soldiers: The mission is impossible

By Nicolas B. Tatro
The Associated Press

NUR SHAMS, Occupied West Bank — "What kind of government is this?" shouted a man in Arabic on Saturday as Israeli soldiers looking for stone-throwers pried at his front door with a scrap of metal.

The soldiers had charged from two directions in jeeps and command cars, scattering about 50 Palestinians who had blocked the main highway leading out of Tulkarem. The youths darted into the narrow alleyways of this shantytown and vanished.

A half-dozen soldiers stopped outside a white, two-story house which had its doors and windows shuttered. "Open the door," the Israeli lieutenant commanded in Arabic.

Another soldier ran up the stairs with a strip of scrap metal and started to break open the door. "What are you doing?" shouted the man, throwing open a window shutter. "There is no body here that you are looking for. Go look in the street."

After 15 minutes of arguing, the soldiers left empty handed. They imposed a four-hour curfew on the village of about 2,000 people.

"It was badly done. They didn't catch anyone," said Col. Yoni, the area commander, whose last name could not be used in keeping with army regulations.

Dozens of similar scenes occur each day and have become a way of life in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

"Nobody at any level will tell you he thinks we are going to win," said Col. Yoni, 37, who holds a doctoral degree in public policy from Princeton University in the United States.

Painful struggle

"I don't think we are falling into the Vietnam trap of trying to win the hearts and minds of the people. This is no longer in the lexicon of anybody here," he said. "A mission accomplishment is the maintenance of reasonable law and order."

Yoni, who fought in Lebanon and the Golan Heights in the 1973 war, predicted that it was "going to be a long and painful period" of struggle between the army and the 1.5 million residents of the occupied territories.

One consequence of this new strategy is that army units do not try to quell every protest, concentrating only on the ones where major roads are blocked, such as in Nur Shams.

In Qalqilya, which borders Israel and is only a few kilometres from Nur Shams, soldiers lifted a curfew for two hours to allow the 25,000 residents to shop for food and break the monotony of living indoors.

Maj. Zachi, an officer commanding a reserve unit in the town, said two officers were hurt when concrete blocks were dropped on them during protests which led to the curfew two weeks ago. But he only struggled when asked if the Israeli policy was effective.

"I really don't know," he said. "We are really not in touch with the population to know what this will accomplish."

He said the reservists, aged 30 to 40, were troubled mostly by the uncertainty of what would happen next but conceded there had been some friction over the politics of occupation.

Zachi said the unit's doctor was transferred to duty inside Israel because his leftist views were "upsetting other soldiers."

He said for the most part soldiers worked 10 to 15 hours a day and didn't have time to argue.

Zachi, a lawyer in civilian life, said orders on the use of live ammunition and beatings were clear. Others said they were confused while still others declined to comment while in uniform.

Col. Yoni, whose jeep was hit by stones Saturday in Nur Shams and who had fired bombs thrown at him previously, said the disturbances were not demonstrations or protests.

"They are attacks. These people are trying to kill or hurt soldiers," he said.

But Yoni said that despite the dangers soldiers had matured during the two and one-half months of protest, taking seriously the need to use restraint.

Another plan heading for the graveyard?

By Patrick Worsnip
Reuters

LONDON — The Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories has brought widespread criticism from the world at large of Israel's methods of riot control but few new ideas on how to solve the Middle East problem.

The prolonged uprising in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, in which at least 59 Palestinians have been killed, has spurred the United States into launching a fresh peace initiative based largely on the 1978 Israeli-Egyptian Camp David accords.

The leaders of Egypt and Jordan have renewed efforts to promote their formula for tackling the crisis — a peace conference of the parties to the conflict and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Many other countries would doubtless agree with the view expressed recently by Vatican Radio that the violence underlines the need for a Middle East solution.

But, conscious perhaps that the region is a graveyard of peace plans, these countries have done little except deplore the situation and restate long-held opinions on what needs to be done.

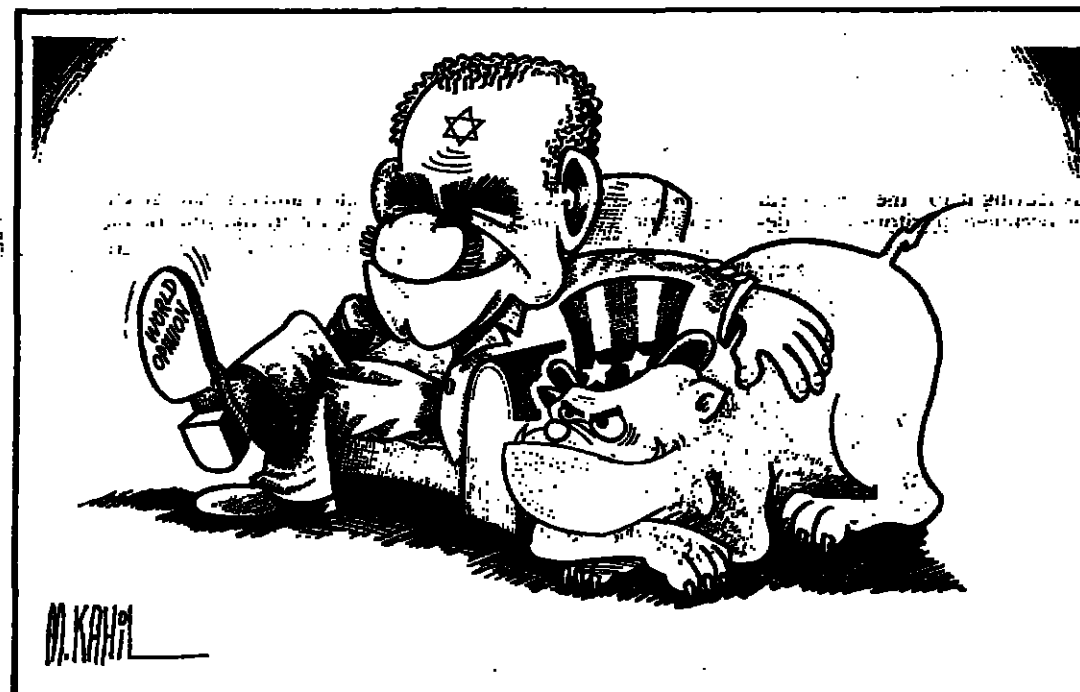
A Dutch foreign ministry official, referring to a dilemma over whether Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers should scrap a planned visit to Israel in May, probably spoke for many when he said: "The Dutch wish that the trouble would just go away."

A European Community (EC) statement issued earlier this month said that the 12 members "deeply deplore the repressive measures taken by Israel, which are in violation of international law and human rights. These measures must stop."

The statement went no further than reiterating EC support for the international conference scheme, which Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has rejected.

Shultz' blend of ideas

Washington's friends in



Europe and the Arab World have appeared anxious not to undercut the U.S. initiative, which Secretary of State George Shultz has called "a new blend of ideas that have been around for a while."

Shultz will visit the Middle East this week to discuss the ideas. Israeli officials say the proposal would start off with some kind of international meeting, provide for an interim period of limited self-rule for the Palestinians and then Arab-Israeli negotiations on a permanent settlement.

Jordanian and Egyptian officials have said such a plan would not go far enough and privately many West European diplomats are also sceptical. But none of them want to discourage the United States, seen as the only power able to influence Israel, from engaging in a Middle East peace effort.

One State Department official said the violence had not hardened U.S. government attitudes towards Israel but had made Washington more determined "to persuade Israel it is in its own interests to move the peace process forward at this time."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), however, has rejected the plan, seeing it as a poorly-conceived attempt to take the heat off Israel while adding nothing to previous proposals.

A senior PLO official in Tunis said: "We are putting all our efforts into helping the uprising." But many independent analysts dispute the PLO's claim to have been behind the uprising and believe it may have lost the initiative to the youthful demonstrators.

World support for uprising

Strong statements of support for the Palestinians have come from Arab allies in the Third World and Communist countries.

Zimbabwean President Kenneth Kaunda declared last week that "what they (the Israelis) are doing to the Palestinians is exactly what Hitler did to the Jewish people."

In Peking, the China Daily published a cartoon of a U.S. official looking through binoculars with his back to Israeli soldiers beating up a Palestinian, with the caption: "Don't disturb

me. I'm looking for human rights violations in the world."

Editorial comment in South Africa, however, has been sympathetic to Israel, drawing parallels with protests which swept South Africa's black townships between 1984 and 1986.

The highly-publicised clashes in the occupied territories have embarrassed and divided the world's Jewish communities, especially in the United States where the pro-Israel lobby is an important political force.

Some Jews have condemned Israel's conduct, such as Rabbi Alexander Schindler, head of the Reform United Hebrew Congregations of America.

He wrote to Israeli President Chaim Herzog on January 24: "The indiscriminate beating of Arabs... is an offence to the Jewish spirit. It violates every principle of human decency, and it betrays the Zionist dream."

But Morris Abram, chairman of the Council of Presidents of Major Jewish American Organisations, said: "The anger should be directed toward the Arab states and the PLO."

Chirac pulling ahead in crucial race for second place

By Charles Campbell
The Associated Press

REIMS, France — Premier Jacques Chirac, long mired in third place in the opinion polls, is gaining an edge over rival conservative Raymond Barre with just two months left before the presidential elections.

The first round of the election, April 24, has become in effect a primary election between Chirac and Barre. Unless there is a stunning turnaround, one of the two will oppose a Socialist, probably incumbent President Francois Mitterrand, in the May 8 runoff for a seven-year term.

Policy differences between

Chirac and Barre are few and minor, so the campaign has focused on the contrasting personalities of the two men and what their political advisers increasingly call "le look."

There is certainly no need for the voters to discover the candidates. Mitterrand has been a major national figure for 40 years. Barre and Chirac for 15 years each.

"It's a question of sentiment, who looks better and talks better," says Bertrand Louapre, a construction engineer.

"Personally, I've chosen Raymond Barre," said Louapre. "Mr. Chirac has certainly taken off faster. He has much stronger

support from his party."

Chirac, a rangy, almost hyperactive figure, is an excellent campaigner, moving swiftly through crowds, but stopping frequently to grasp the hands of his supporters briefly in his own oversized paws.

Closer to people

"I think the premier is closer to people, and that's what will make him win," political science professor Alain Redtsch, author of a book on Chirac, said in an interview. "I think there's a strong movement beginning to lift off."

"The Barre style is that of a fairly cold man, who has wanted to give himself an image of rigor," Ber-

nard Pons, Chirac's minister of overseas territories, said in a radio interview. "He is a man who is fairly secret and who... frequently makes decisions alone."

Barre, an economics professor who had never run for public office when he began his five-year term as premier in 1976, is widely respected but inspires little enthusiasm. He prides himself on telling people starkly what they need to know, whether or not they want to hear it.

"They tell me to offer the French people a dream," Barre told a campaign rally in the southwestern city of Poitiers. "But to dream, one must first go to sleep."

I love my country too much, I respect my fellow citizens too much to lend myself to that."

Barre says Chirac's government, which took over from the Socialists in March 1986, has made some good moves. He says he would take stronger action to boost French industry.

Mitterrand, who has not yet announced whether he'll seek another term, has long had a solid lead in opinion surveys, while Chirac trailed Barre throughout last year. A poll published Jan. 16, the day Chirac declared his candidacy, gave Mitterrand 41 per cent to 25 per cent for Barre and 18.5 per cent for Chirac.

Plug the drain

ILO Feature

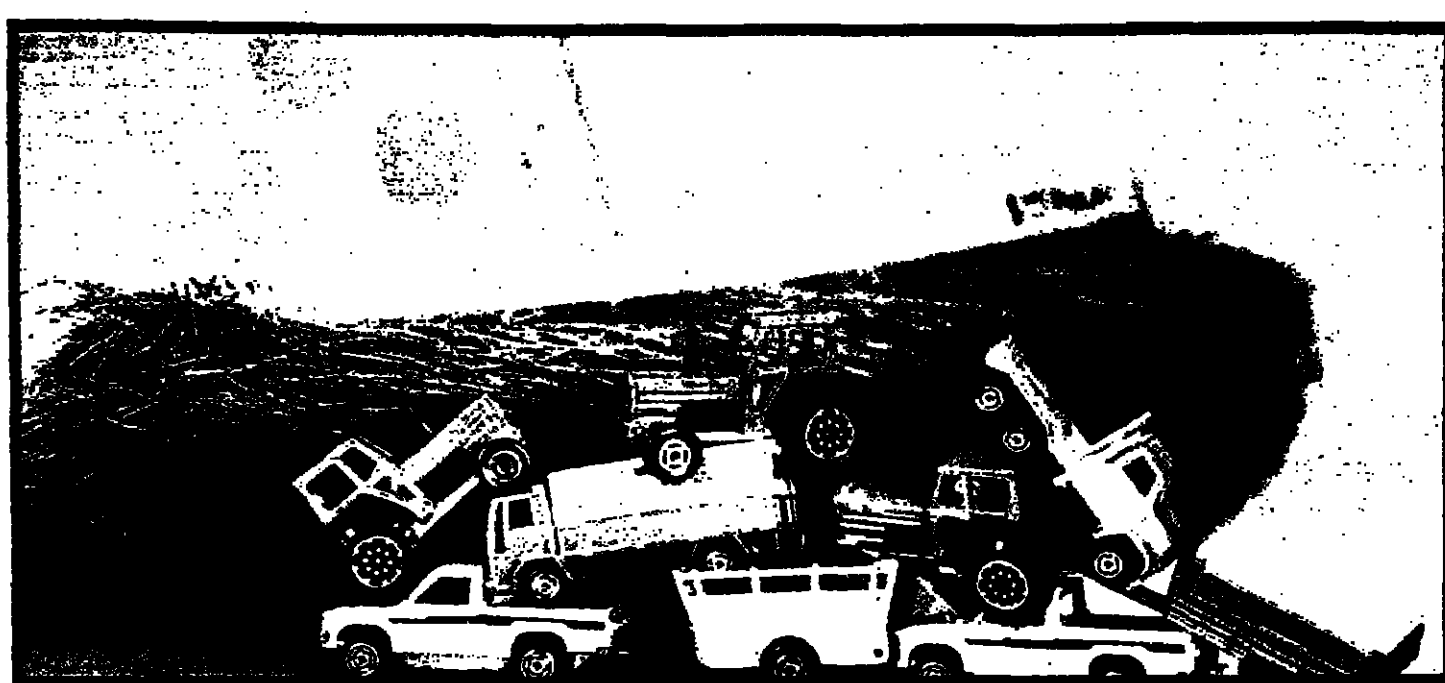
THERE is one yet untied way to make developing economies tick and to help make many Third World nations credit-worthy again: By ending slipshod maintenance of their industrial parks and infrastructures.

Idle machines broken down because of insufficient lubrication are a sad syndrome. So are tractors and farm equipment rusting in the fields. Or transport vehicles scrapped after less than half of their design life. Or pot-holed roads that were built at great expense only a few years ago. Or hotels that repel tourists because of defective plumbing. Or dilapidated irrigation systems.

It is difficult to calculate how much money goes down the drain in terms of reduced production capacity, missed business opportunities, lost revenues from both national and foreign markets, and repair and replacement outlays. But it is an educated guess that each year faulty maintenance costs the developing countries more than \$100 billion and possibly over \$200 billion.

To put this financial haemorrhage into context, the whole World Bank lending programme for 1986 was "only" \$16 billion.

Alternatively, analysts estimate that in heavily indebted middle-income countries restoration of growth and credit-worthiness over a five-year period would require between \$14 billion and \$21 billion. A similar rescue operation in low-income Africa would cost \$12.5 billion



during the same time span.

So developing countries appear to be in the paradoxical position of going hat in hand to their creditors asking that their debts be rescheduled, while sitting on gold mines of unused or under-used productive resources that could be exploited by just the application of efficient maintenance practice.

The paradox becomes even more striking when one considers that such procedures do not call for highly trained or skilled engineers, technicians and craftsmen. Moreover, preventive upkeep is actually cheaper to implement than the repair of breakdowns. The work can be done in normal business hours, rather than in overtime necessitated by emergencies. The spare parts required are inexpensive "consumables" such as lubricants, filters and bearings, instead of costly replacements such as entire gearboxes and engine blocks.

How can such a situation persist?

Apart from multinational

"Tractors rusting in the fields. Vehicles scrapped rather than repaired. Nearly new roads dotted with pot-holes..."

firms, almost all large enterprises in developing countries are owned by the state. They often suffer from problems of personnel demotivated by low, government-set salaries and from political interference which breed irresponsibility.

Accounting practices are at least partly to blame. Shortened equipment life and loss of production due to poor maintenance go unreported since they are difficult to express in money terms. Senior management is kept in the dark. Because not enough is known about the damage caused by the lack of good maintenance, there is therefore no strong incentive to introduce it.

Private sector firms are predominantly small or medium-scale in the Third World. They

rarely employ graduate engineers who could sound the alarm. Also it has been observed that even when these enterprises realise the potential benefits of preventive upkeep, they do not trust their mechanics to handle this correctly and prefer to run their equipment until it breaks down.

What needs to be done?

The first step must be to develop an appropriate method of estimating the true costs of faulty maintenance, one that is accurate and simple to use. This is the easier part. Then managers will have to be convinced to apply the method. This is the harder part. Just as many people are reluctant to visit a doctor or dentist for a check-up because they are afraid of what might be found, many managers will be afraid of being caught napping. A carrot-and-stick approach might be necessary.

If these tasks are accomplished successfully, the battle will be half won. The other half will consist of suitable training which in the past has not been publicly

available. But this is changing.

Among other agencies, the ILO has been active in developing training methods and materials to fill the gap. Thus, the ILO's modular training programmes instill multiple skills that are essential for competent maintenance workers. There are also special courses for managers as well as pilot projects to promote high maintenance standards in enterprises. All these activities will be further intensified and broadened to help stem the multi-billion dollar drain.

An ounce of prevention...

THE potential savings from maintenance improvement are far greater than would be suspected. A three-month campaign conducted by a four-man team from the Ethiopian Management Institute in 1983 showed benefits in 27 factories amounting to \$7 million per year, made up of increased production, extended plant life, decreased waste and reduced maintenance costs.

Earth's 6th mass extinction appears to be well under way

By Donald J. Frederick
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Mass extinction: The phrase brings images of the widespread dying of animals and plants millions of years ago. The world has been hit with five major extinctions, and scientists say that a sixth is well under way.

Unlike earlier catastrophes, caused by long-term evolutionary competition or environmental change, this one is caused by man.

"We have become the great catastrophic agent since the extinction spasm that closed the Mesozoic Era 65 million years ago," says Edward O. Wilson, a Harvard University biology professor.

Hardest hit by the new wave of extinction are the world's tropical forests. About a third of Earth's plant and animal species are believed to live in them.

"In a few square kilometres in Ecuador or Malaysia," says Wilson, "can be found hundreds of species of birds, thousands of species of plants, and tens of thousands of species of beetles."

Denuded by farming, ranching, logging, mining, and the demand for firewood, the forests are fast disappearing.

"Although the large and sparsely populated blocks of forest in the Brazilian Amazon and in the interior of Guyana might last past the middle of the next century, most of the remaining forests will be gone within the next 25 years," says Peter H. Raven, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden and an expert on tropical forests.

With the forests will go irreplaceable sources of medicines and germ plasm important to agriculture, as well as much of the world's most remarkable wildlife, including animals such as the

orangutan, tapir, and spider monkey, says Raven.

"Many plant and animal species in the forests might become extinct before they can even be discovered or described by scientists," he says. "Over the next 25 years, we can expect the rate of extinction to average approximately 100 species a day, with the rate increasing steadily over this period of time."

Deforestation and the diversity of life were two of the global issues discussed at a five-day symposium sponsored by the National Geographic Society on the occasion of its centennial in January. Scholars and scientists from around the world evaluated the last 100 years of developments in their fields, and tried to look into the future.

Earth resources dwindle

Symposium chairman Russell W. Peterson, former president of the National Audubon Society, predicted continuing pressure on earth's dwindling natural resources. "To see that the overall annual demand for resources doesn't take more from the Earth's natural systems than they can replenish annually is the prime challenge to providing a sustainable and decent quality of life for future generations," he said.

The scientists agreed that the continued destruction of tropical forests could impoverish future generations.

Thousands of rain-forest plants could provide food if their properties could be fully explored and brought into cultivation, says Raven. "Beyond the development of additional kinds of plants as sources of food," he says, "other plants offer extraordinary possibilities as sources of medicines, oils, waxes, fibers, and other commodities of interest to

our modern industrial society." To realise these possibilities, the rich reservoir of genetic traits still in the forests should be protected, say many scientists. The tropical mass of plants, insects, fungi, and bacteria is the main repository of Earth's gene pool, a memory bank of information evolved over billions of years and still largely unexploited.

For instance, farmers may someday need to fall back on wild strains of food crops like coffee to resist epidemics of disease or insect infestations. Industries may come to the rain forest to exploit such biochemical marvels as the copaliba tree, which naturally produces a liquid similar to diesel fuel.

Yet, the price of diversity for the rain forests is their relative vulnerability. Since no two are the same — not even parts of the same forest — the destruction of even a small area can result in the extinction of many species.

Most experts agree that the tide of extinction could be turned by intelligent use of the remaining forests.

"Substantial natural areas," says Raven, "should be included as an integral part of all development plans, to serve as parks and reserves, natural sources of germ plasm, and as means for facilitating the maintenance of air and water quality and for erosion control. In addition, we should redouble our efforts to create facilities such as seed banks, where species can be preserved even if their habitats are destroyed."

"For many reasons, the support of industrial nations for sound development in the tropics should be viewed as a matter of self-interest, and not just charity. The degree of success will play a large role in determining the characteristics of the world in the next few decades."

Jordan reserves comment on American initiative

boycott Shultz during his visit next week, Dudin said Jordan was leaving it to "the people (in the occupied territories) to decide."

New Israeli measures

Dudin described recently introduced Israeli measures restricting the flow of money to the occupied territories and introducing new conditions for permitting the movement of the Palestinians across the bridges as "violations of the Geneva conventions concerning the rights of the people under occupation."

Israel said earlier this week that no individual from the West Bank and Gaza can transfer more than JD 400 to the occupied territories without prior Israeli approval and that no Palestinian would be allowed to cross the bridges unless he or she had paid taxes in full to the occupation authorities.

According to Dudin, these "security techniques" are methods used to try "screen the person in question and to check his or her relationship with what is going on (the uprising)."

In a reply to a question about the effects of the Israeli measures on Jordan's development programme in the West Bank and Gaza, Dudin said that Jordan had always been cautious that its funding would not be blocked by Israeli "security" measures.

He explained that Jordan had always chosen projects which could not be categorised under Israel's "security" concerns and that any transfer of money was usually accompanied by a description of its purpose.

He said that it was still premature to judge the implications of the new Israeli measures on the Jordanian plan. "So far, it is just an arrangement... we shall wait and see how to work things out," he said.

Uprising leadership

Dudin said Jordan did not have enough information on the identity of the leadership of the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza or if there was a unified leadership. "We do not have enough information to judge if there is indeed a unified command for the uprising, and if there is such a thing we are not sure of its identity and whether it adheres to a fundamentalist religious trend, the PLO or the Communist Party... for we receive different leaflets signed by the Jihad, the Palestinian Communist Party and the United Command among others," he said.

"But if we knew we would not say," Dudin added.

In reply to a question he said Jordan would be ready to talk to a unified Palestinian leadership which could emerge in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip but

would not view this leadership as a substitute for the PLO. "When it comes to the question of representation, the issue is more complex... but we are sure that if such a leadership emerged it would find a place within the ranks of

the PNC," he said. Dudin noted that the Palestinian uprising had given "precedence to the role of the people, over that of any party concerned, with all due respects to all parties, including the PLO."

PLO reports 4 American 'nos'

committee of Arab foreign ministers, which met here Saturday, would be contacting the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to try to obtain a new resolution from the 15-member body on the Palestinian issue.

Asked about contacts between PLO leaders in exile and any underground leadership in the occupied territories, Arafat said: "You see, this has to be known by everybody. We are one people, one body, inside and outside our occupied territories. One decision, one leadership and one determination."

He said there were contacts "hour by hour" with the leaders of the uprising.

Asked if he would hold to his 1985 Cairo declaration restricting PLO attacks to military targets inside Israel and the occupied territories, Arafat said the agree-

ment "has to be respected not only from our side."

Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has rejected calls for a full government debate on the American plan.

But Shamir told government ministers Sunday the 10-man inner cabinet would Wednesday discuss the Shultz initiative.

Asked why Shamir refused to discuss it during the Israeli government's weekly meeting, his spokesman Avi Pazner replied: "Because this is why we formed the inner cabinet. The coalition agreement calls for all diplomatic and security matters to be discussed in the inner cabinet."

Cabinet sources quoted ministers as saying they did not remember a time when there was not a full government debate on such an important issue.

Palestinians mark 'Martyrs' Day'

west of here, about 1,500 Arabs marched through the streets chanting anti-Israeli and anti-American slogans.

In a fiery speech at the graveside of one of the two village residents who died from army bullets, a speaker rejected the Shultz trip.

"From this grave we condemn the Shultz visit and the United States," he said.

"These masses," he said gesturing to the crowd, "are led by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). We will continue to achieve our goals and not satisfy American policy in the region."

Graffiti in Kfar Naami read: "No for the visit of Shultz, yes, to the Palestinian government. Yes to the PLO."

A leaflet distributed Sunday and signed by the "United National Leadership of the Uprising" urged Palestinians to show "national outrage in the face of the national outrage."

It called for a day of solidarity Monday to honour those killed, wounded or arrested in the uprising. It also called for a national hunger strike Tuesday, general strikes Wednesday and Thursday, protests Friday and a defiance of curfews Saturday.

Shultz is due to arrive Thursday. Attorney-general Harish said his office was being inundated by reports of soldiers illegally beat-

ing up Arabs during the Palestinian uprising.

"I have checked and found out that the number of complaints raises the suspicion that classifying these incidents as exceptions no longer reflects the reality," Harish said in a letter to Rabin.

In Gaza, Palestinian sources said 12 Arabs needed hospital treatment after being hit by troops Monday.

Harish, in his letter, said Israeli soldiers were forbidden to use force to punish or humiliate Palestinian protesters.

But Arabs in Nablus hospital on the West Bank told Reuters correspondent Jeffrey Bartholet how soldiers picked them up in night raids on their villages and severely beat them.

"Six soldiers put me down. First they hit me with a stick in the head. I called for my mother. No one heard and they continued to hit me with a stick on the front of my body," said Talal Abdullah Yusuf Abu Samour, 22, who suffered severe bruises to his face.

Said Sudki Mohammad Zaid, 16, told how he was taken from his aunt's house Sunday evening and beaten on the way to a nearby prison and again when he arrived. He was released after four hours' detention.

"They hit me and I fell on the ground and they started to hit me. When I fell asleep, they hit me again," he said.

Snake venom extract tested in stroke victims

By Daniel Q. Haney
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — An extract of snake venom shows promise as a treatment for stroke victims, according to researchers looking for ways to dissolve blood clots before brain damage can occur.

The treatment, called anecrod, is derived from the venom of the Malayan pit viper. Doctors have given it to 10 patients, and although the results are still preliminary, the therapy appears to help.

"This is a drug that shows potential," said the study's director, Dr. Charles P. Olinger, of the University of Cincinnati.

Olinger presented his findings at a stroke meeting sponsored by the American Heart Association that concluded on Feb. 20.

At the same meeting, two other researchers described early results from the experimental use in stroke victims of another clot-dissolving substance called tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA.

These studies are part of a major new goal of stroke research — finding ways to stop strokes before they permanently injure the brain.

Quick treatment with tPA in the hours after a heart attack can minimize the destruction of heart tissue. Doctors hope to show that tPA and other drugs can do the same thing for stroke victims.

Strokes and heart attacks are often similar. A heart attack occurs when a blood clot blocks off one of the major arteries that feeds the heart. About 80 per cent of all strokes result when a clot stops the flow of blood to part of the brain, killing brain cells. Paralysis or death often result.

Until now, there has been no treatment for strokes in the first hours after they occur. Although experts believe that the brain tissue could be saved if the clot somehow went away, there was no way to make this happen.

In Olinger's study, 10 victims received injections of anecrod within an average of eight hours of the start of their strokes, while 10 others in a comparison group got dummy shots.

After moderate strokes, people who got anecrod scored three times better than the comparison group on a scale used to measure stroke severity. Those who received the treatment continued to improve more quickly than the others three months after their attacks.

Olinger said anecrod appears to prompt the body to produce its own tPA, which is a natural clot-dissolving substance. He said it did not cause any serious side effects, including bleeding in the

brain, a potential hazard of drugs that slow the blood's natural tendency to clot.

"We think the patients (who got anecrod) are doing better," Olinger said. "They are brighter and take a greater interest in their rehabilitation programmes."

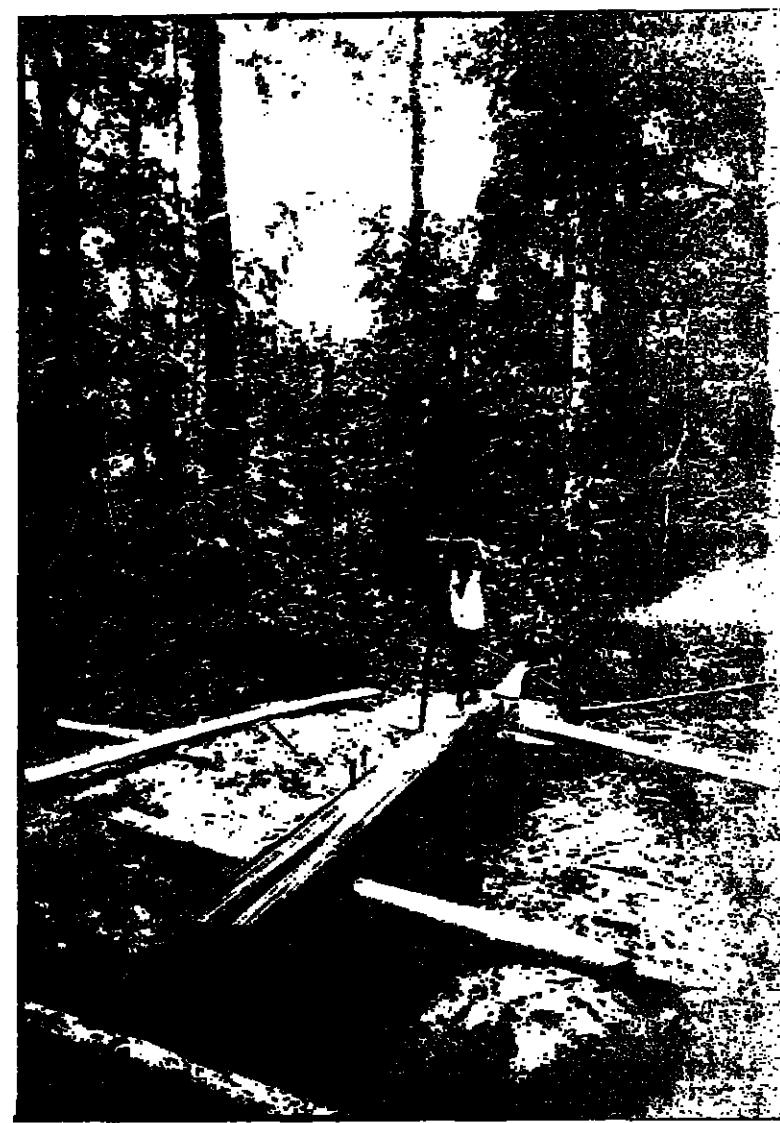
Dr. Jay P. Mohr, of Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Centre in New York, said the number of patients studied was too small to draw any firm conclusions about anecrod's effectiveness, but the study does demonstrate its safety. Olinger said a larger study group is being set up.

Two major studies are in their early stages to see if tPA helps stroke patients.

One, directed by Dr. Thomas Brodt, of the University of Cincinnati, has given tPA within 90 minutes of the onset of symptoms. Of 22 patients treated, eight improved while still getting the tPA and two improved shortly afterward. There was no improvement in the other 12.

Since there was no comparison group, however, the doctors could not be sure that the treatment was responsible for the improvement.

Workers saw a log from a mahogany tree in Zaire. Species in Earth's tropical forests are bearing the brunt of the planet's latest wave of mass extinctions. Pressured by human needs, most of the remaining forests could disappear within the next 25 years. With them would vanish thousands of species of plants and animals.



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AMMAN JORDAN

Swedish skater sets record; France wins super-G slalom

CALGARY (Agencies) — A Swedish speed skater raced to a world record in the 10,000-metre Marathon Sunday, becoming the Winter Olympics' first double gold medalist, and France won its first alpine skiing gold since Jean-Claude Killy's three in 1966.

Austria completed a sweep of the alpine combined events, frustrating archival Switzerland, as Anita Wachter edged Swiss skier Brigitte Oertli for the women's gold medal.

But the Soviet Union, continuing its domination of the cross country skiing with a victory in the women's 4 x 5-kilometre re-

lay, stayed atop the overall standings with 16 medals, including six gold. The East Germans also had six golds, and 10 overall.

Deteriorating conditions in Calgary's recent heat and blowing sand forced a halt to the final two runs of the two-man bobsled race after 28 of the 41 sleds already had made one of the runs. The

times won't count, and the two runs were to be started over again Monday.

Swedish skater Tomas Gustafson, who had won the 5,000-metre race earlier, skated 25 laps around the Olympic Oval in 13 minutes, 48.20 seconds, breaking the world record of 13:48.51 set last December by Norway's Geir Karlstad on the same track — the first indoor track ever used in an Olympics.

Austria's Michael Hadschieff, a bronze medalist in the 1,500 metres, was nearly eight seconds behind in 13:56.11 and Leo Visser of The Netherlands placed third in 14:00.55.

Franck Piccard took the inaugural Olympic super-giant slalom and became the first Frenchman to win an Olympic alpine title since the heady days of Killy.

The Frenchman, born in 1964 and named after Frank Sinatra, avoided the assorted catastrophes which struck most of the top names in the super-giant slalom to add a gold medal to the bronze he won in Monday's downhill.

Pirmin Zurbriggen, the downhill champion, finished equal fifth but Italian Alberto Tomba.

Luxembourg's Marc Girardelli and West German Markus Wasmeier all crashed out as Austrian Helmut Mayer and Swede Lars Boerje Eriksson took silver and bronze.

Japanese ski jumper Akihiro Higashi, having lost his balance during practice, ended up halfway through the fence at Olympic Park. He also injured his right leg.

Soviets stake strong claim for ice hockey gold; W. Germans bag place in medal round

CALGARY (AP) — The Soviet Union has served notice that it's ready to take on all challengers in the Olympic hockey tournament medal round. West Germany is just happy to be there.

1988 WINTER OLYMPICS

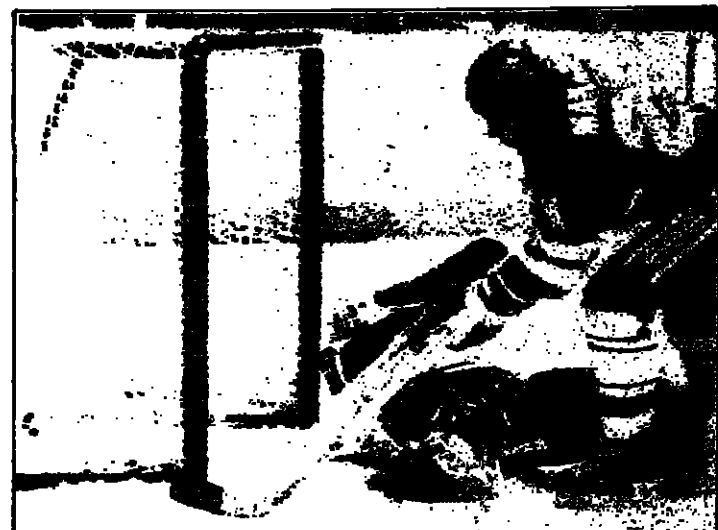
The second-seeded Soviets finished their rampage through preliminary-round play by downing number three Czechoslovakia 6-1 Sunday for their fifth straight victory.

The sixth-seeded West Germans silenced the number seven Americans' hopes with a 4-1 triumph, earning the final medal-round spot from the "B" pool. Czechoslovakia is the third representative.

Number 10 Norway faced off against number 11 Austria, with each seeking its first victory. Both came away empty-handed after a 4-4 tie.

On Monday, fifth-seeded Finland and number 9 Switzerland ended their pursuit of the third medal-round berth from the "A" pool. Top-seeded Sweden and number four Canada have wrapped up their invitations.

Finland controls its own destiny and can advance to the final



Sergei Makarov scores a Soviet goal past fallen American goalkeeper Chris Terreri.

round by downing number eight Poland, which is reeling from a drug scandal that ousted its star forward, Jaroslav Morawiecki, from these games after he tested positive for steroid use.

For Switzerland to have a shot, it must beat last-seeded France and hope for one of two things to happen: Poland must upset Finland, or those two teams must tie

while Canada beats or ties Sweden.

West Germany shut down the high-powered American offense with a smothering defence and a sparkling performance from goaltender Karl Friesen, who was rested in Friday's loss to the Soviets so he would be fresh for the expected showdown against the United States.

Real Madrid recovers, but Monaco and Bremen struggle

Reuters

SPANISH FIRST Division soccer leaders Real Madrid bounced back in style from their midweek Spanish cup defeat by Real Sociedad with a 5-0 win over Las Palmas Sunday.

Two goals from Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez highlighted their victory only three days after a 4-0 mauling by Real Sociedad in the semi-finals of the Spanish Cup.

Monaco and Werder Bremen found it more difficult, however, when the French and West German leagues resumed after their two-month winter breaks.

Both produced lethargic performances as they struggled to dispossess goalless draws away to Niort and at home to Kaiserslautern respectively.

The Dutch and Portuguese leaders PSV Eindhoven and Porto extended their season-long unbeaten runs to 22 matches.

"Our cup defeat against Real Sociedad was like the end of the

EUROPEAN SOCCER ROUND-UP

world," said Real Madrid's Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker. "But in the league we have shown we can do it."

"We're still the indisputable leaders. The five goals proved we knew how to react to the heated atmosphere of the last few days."

Sanchez's goals took his tally for the season to 21. Miguel Tendillo, Michel Gonzalez and Manuel Sanchis scored the other Madrid goals as they moved five points clear of city rivals Atletico Madrid.

Atletico were held 1-1 at Real Betis while third-placed Real Sociedad beat Espanol 1-0. Portuguese international Paulo Futre set up Atletico's equaliser for Julio Salinas after Jose Melenas had put Betis ahead. Jose Bakero headed Real Sociedad's winner against Espanol — his 15th goal of the season.

In West Germany, Werder Bremen's dull restart to serious

soccer action was overshadowed by the resignation of Cologne coach Udo Lattek.

The former Bayern Munich coach announced his immediate departure to take up a new career as a sports columnist with the mass-circulation Bild newspaper on the morning of their 2-2 draw at struggling Bochum.

The dropped point cost Cologne second place as Bayern Munich, 2-1 winners at Waldhof Mannheim, moved up from third to take second spot four points behind the leaders Werder Bremen.

Cologne took an early lead through Stefan Engels, but goals from Lothar Woelk and Uwe Leifeld put Bochum ahead before former England striker Tony Woodcock saved a point for Cologne with a later equaliser.

Bayern came from behind to win in Ludwigsfelden with goals from Hans Fllueger and Michael Rummenigge after Manfred Bockenfeld had put Waldhof ahead.

Monaco's failure in France did not affect their grip on the leading position as second-placed Bordeaux lost 2-1 at Toulouse. Monaco thus moved four points ahead after a day on which eight fixtures produced only 10 goals.

Jean-Philippe Durand put Toulouse ahead against Bordeaux, Philip Fargeon equalised but Alain Roche undid his good work by scoring an own goal to hand Toulouse the points.

Agassi wins U.S. Indoor

MEMPHIS (R) — Seventeen-year-old American Andre Agassi became the youngest player ever to win the \$415,000 U.S. Indoor tennis championship when he beat Sweden's Mikael Pernfors 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 in the final Sunday.

Agassi, the sixth-seed, broke Pernfors nine times during the match. There were 15 service breaks in all as Agassi broke his ninth-seeded opponent in the first game of each set.

Agassi played power tennis all day and survived the many long points that were played in the first set. Pernfors had played late night doubles matches Friday and Saturday but said the problem was mental more than physical.

Agassi, who collected \$53,500 for the victory, said even though he led for most of the match he never felt an over abundance of confidence.

Navratilova crushes Savchenko to adorn Virginia Slims crown

OAKLAND (AP) — Martina Navratilova beat the Soviet Union's Larisa Savchenko 6-1, 6-2 Sunday to conclude a dominating week of tennis and win the \$250,000 Virginia Slims of California event.

The top-seeded Navratilova won all five of her matches during the tournament in straight sets and lost only 16 games. A strong serving performance including four aces was the key to her victory over Savchenko, the unseeded 21-year-old who upset three seeded players to reach the finals.

"It helps me when I'm getting in my first serve. I get into the flow of the match better," Navratilova said. "I got rolling today."

"I was happy with it (her first serve). The percentage might

have been 70 or better." She ended the first set with an ace, her third in three games. In her first serving opportunity of the second set, she came back from a 0-40 deficit to win.

The official card showed that the 31-year-old Czech native, a U.S. citizen since 1981, got 66 per cent of her first serves in as she rolled to the 131st singles title of her career.

The title Sunday was her second in eight days. She beat Savchenko 6-4, 6-2, coming from behind in the first set, en route to the finals of the tournament she won in Dallas a week earlier.

The \$50,000 first-place cheque for the singles title pushed Navratilova's women's-record, career tournament earnings over \$12.8 million.

NBA STANDINGS

NEW YORK (R) — Standings in the National Basketball Association (NBA) after Sunday's games:

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston Celtics	36	16	.692	—
Philadelphia 76ers	22	28	.440	13
Washington Bullets	19	30	.338	15½
New York Knicks	19	30	.338	15½
New Jersey Nets	12	39	.235	23½
Central Division				
Atlanta Hawks	33	19	.635	—
Detroit Pistons	31	18	.633	½
Chicago Bulls	30	22	.577	3
Indiana Pacers	28	22	.560	4
Milwaukee Bucks	27	22	.551	4½
Cleveland Cavaliers	28	25	.528	5½
Western Conference				
Midwest Division				
Dallas Mavericks	33	17	.660	—
Houston Rockets	30	19	.612	2½
Denver Nuggets	29	20	.592	3½
Utah Jazz	27	24	.529	6½
San Antonio Spurs	19	29	.396	13
Sacramento Kings	16	35	.314	17½
Pacific Division				
Los Angeles Lakers	42	9	.824	—
Portland Trail Blazers	30	20	.600	11½
Seattle Supersonics	27	26	.509	16
Phoenix Suns	16	34	.320	25
Golden State Warriors	13	35	.271	27
Los Angeles Clippers	11	39	.220	30

NHL STANDINGS (Ice Hockey)

NEW YORK (R) — Standings in the National Hockey League (NHL) after Sunday's games:

Wales Conference						
Patrick Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia Flyers	31	22	7	69	220	208
Washington Capitals	30	25	6	66	209	184
New York Islanders	29	23	8	66	238	210
New Jersey Devils	25	26	9	59	232	237
Pittsburgh Penguins	27	30	5	59	216	249
New York Rangers	24	29	8	56	233	227
Adams Division						
Boston Bruins	35	21	5	75	235	190
Montreal Canadiens	32	20	10	74	226	198
Buffalo Sabres	26	26	9	61	211	233
Hartford Whalers	25	28	7	57	184	199
Quebec Nordiques	24	31	4	52	212	229
Campbell Conference						
Norris Division						
Detroit Red Wings	31	20	8	70	240	195
St. Louis Blues	28	27	5	61	208	204
Chicago Black Hawks	24	31	6	54	212	248
Toronto Maple Leafs	18	34	10	46	222	260
Minnesota North Stars	16	35	9	41	181	250
Smythe Division						
Calgary Flames	35	20	7	77	300	231
Edmonton Oilers	34	19	8	76	277	215
Winnipeg Jets	26	25	9	61	227	226
Los Angeles Kings	23	36	5	51	239	284
Vancouver Canucks	20	34	7	47	211	237

Tyson sparring in Tokyo

TOKYO (R) — Undisputed world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson impressed with his speed and power Monday in his first sparring session since he arrived in Tokyo to prepare for next month's title defence.

The 21-year-old Tyson, who will make his third defence of the title against fellow American Tony Tubbs on March 21, went a total of five rounds with three of his five sparring partners.

Tyson impressed Japanese boxing critics with his speedy jabs, hooks and uppercuts.

"He not only has power. He has speed and a good defence technique," former world flyweight champion Yoshio Shirai said.

The champion, who won favourable opinions from critics last week with his punching power on the heavy bag, surprised them Monday by sparring without head gear.



Combinations puncher... Mike Tyson fits the bill in Tokyo

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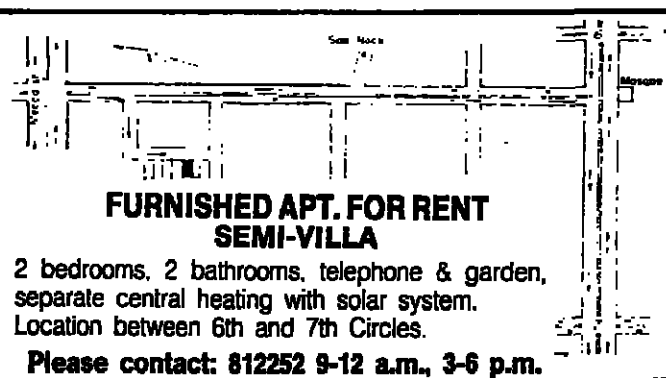
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PLAZA

BREAKING ALL
THE RULES

Performances: 3, 30, 6, 10, 8, 30, 10, 30

Kanak separatists clash with police, take 10 hostages

NOUMEA (R) — About 20 policemen were injured and 10 taken hostage Monday during a clash with separatists in the French overseas territory of New Caledonia, police sources said.

Some 100 supporters of the separatist movement FLNKS armed with clubs charged police after a land dispute. Three of the injured policemen were airlifted to a hospital in Noumea, the sources said.

During the clashes two police trucks were set ablaze and other vehicles were destroyed.

The incident was one of the worst in New Caledonia since 1984 and 1985, when 32 people died in separatist violence.

The clash took place about 4 p.m. near Poinindie on the eastern coast where police were guarding a hospital building site.

Police last week evicted indigenous Melanesians who claimed tribal rights to live there and had warned that they would oppose the building work.

The officers — part of a force

of gendarmes sent from Paris to ensure law and order on the troubled South Pacific territory — fired teargas separatists throwing stones and wielding sticks charged them.

Several of the police suffered broken bones in the attack, police said. Some were seriously injured and were flown by helicopter to the capital Noumea.

Ten other gendarmes were taken hostage by the protesters who retreated and police called for reinforcement to be flown to the trouble spot.

The FLNKS (Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front) renewed a call at its Congress Saturday for a boycott of forthcoming regional elections and France's forthcoming presidential poll.

In Canberra, French Defence

Minister Andre Girard was attending a diplomatic reception and could not be contacted.

Earlier, he told reporters Australia should "mind its own business" with regard to New Caledonia and French nuclear tests in the Pacific.

Relations between Australia and France have been strained by Australian support for New Caledonia being placed on the United Nations' list of colonised territories.

Girard said France had not severed ties with Australia but they had been difficult to maintain while the New Caledonia issue remained.

"It was very difficult to keep that thing going at a time when there was a very unfriendly attitude from Australia in the United Nations," Girard said. "Nothing of the like has occurred in the recent weeks or months."

The Australian Foreign Ministry said it was checking the reports of trouble in Noumea but had no official response.

S. African fighter jet shot down in Angola

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A South African air force plane was shot down during a raid on southern Angola, military headquarters announced Monday.

The aircraft was downed Saturday after Pretoria launched air strikes in retaliation for a bomb attack on a bank which killed 19 people in South African-ruled Namibia, Angola's southern neighbour.

The military communiqué said the plane's pilot, Major Edward Richard Every, was missing in southeast Angola.

The brief military statement said the plane was shot down Saturday afternoon during a raid which followed retaliatory strikes against bases of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) in southern Angola.

"After the successful air strikes against SWAPO targets Saturday morning, the air force was used again in an air attack on Cuban and FAPLA (Angolan government forces) reinforcements which posed a potential threat to South African forces."

"During this operation, one aircraft, flown by Major Every, was struck by ground fire," the statement concluded.

Military officials gave no further details.

SWAPO bases are usually located in southwest Angola and the fact that the plane was hit over the southeast might indicate it was involved in a long South African military campaign in support of pro-Western Angolan rebels.

Five South African soldiers were killed in southeast Angola last week during battles which Pretoria said occurred during the withdrawal of its troops which have been fighting Angolan government units.

The South African intervention which began last year was designed to thwart an offensive launched by the government in Luanda against rebels of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), the latest in a 12-year-old civil war.

South Africa, deprived of modern fighter aircraft because of a U.N. arms embargo, has admitted losing at least two planes in the latest fighting in Angola.

South Africa also announced that it followed up the air attacks with long-range mortar bombardments Saturday and Sunday on SWAPO positions. The military statement said the mortar attacks were "successful," but did not disclose any additional details.

South Africa occupies Namibia also known as south-west Africa, in violation of a United Nations resolution.

Ortega: Aid to contras means more war

MANAGUA (AP) — If the U.S. Congress approves new non-lethal aid for the contra rebels it will be erasing the word peace," President Daniel Ortega said Sunday.

In a two-hour speech at the opening session of the National Assembly, Ortega said the United States "continues to propitiate and finance the war against Nicaragua and despite the vote of Congress against that aid, this chapter has not closed."

He said he believed U.S. President Ronald Reagan would look for a way to obtain more financing for the rebels contras by calling it humanitarian aid.

"If the North American Congress approves the type of financing, it would be erasing the word peace that it wrote when it voted against the funds, and would be putting (in) the word 'war'," he said in the speech.

The U.S. House of Representatives on Feb. 3 turned down Reagan's request for a \$36.2-million aid package that included about \$3.6 million for weapons and ammunition, along with additional millions for military logistical support for the rebels fighting Sandinista government.

Opposition Democrats prevailed in that vote, 219-211, after the party's leadership promised wavering members that there would be a later opportunity to vote on a package of contra aid that included only food, clothing, medicine and shelter.

A group of Democrats, together with one or two Republicans who voted against the president's proposal, have been meeting to draft such an alternative.

Ortega also said in his speech that the U.S. embassy in Managua was financing opposition groups "including the Communist Party."

Deputies from the Communist Party and two other opposition parties did not attend the assembly session.

In the speech, Ortega said 26,500 people have been killed since the war began in 1981 and 23,882 others wounded. Other sources have said unofficially in the past that more than 40,000 have died.

Epidemics threaten flood-hit Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Doctors warned against a leprosy outbreak and officials appealed for federal aid following pounding rains the mayor says have left Rio looking like "a giant stepped through the city, smashing homes and hillsides."

Officials said the worst flash floods in the city's history left at least 66 people dead and 11,000 homeless. Authorities estimated that 50,000 people may have to be relocated.

By Sunday night, about 24.4 centimetres of rain had fallen on the city since late Friday, when the latest onslaught of flash flooding began, officials said.

Health Secretary Jose Noronha, warning against an outbreak of leprosy, also told Rio residents to boil drinking water and said the government would vaccinate for typhoid and tetanus.

He said 69 people had been hospitalised since the beginning of the month with leprosy, a

disease carried by rats and contaminated water. Five have died of the disease, Noronha said in a broadcast on Jornal do Brasil radio.

Vice Mayor Jo Rezende said he asked the federal government for \$4 million to clean up city streets, relocate slum dwellers and repair embankments and streets swept away by the waters.

"I can't even imagine what will happen to this city if the rains continue," Rezende told the Jornal do Brasil radio. "The situation is desperate. We estimate 50,000 people will have to be given new housing in safer areas."

Rescue workers trudged through knee-deep mud and rubble Sunday searching for victims.

About 80 fire-fighters and volunteers used their hands and crude tools to lift three concrete floors of a six-apartment building crushed by a mudslide late Sunday, a civil defence official said.

Four people were pulled alive from the twisted metal and concrete, while at least 10 others were thought buried, neighbours told television reporters.

Torrents raged down streets throughout the city, prompting some people to tie their cars to posts to prevent them from being swept away. Civil defence workers used amphibious vehicles and surfboards to reach people in partially submerged cars.

Rivers and drainage canals overflowed, pushing dozens of shanty homes from their precarious hillside perches.

Much of the damage was inflicted on the slums that hold about two million of the city's seven million residents, but wealthy areas also suffered heavy damage.

Public schools were used as shelter for the estimated 10,000 homeless, Avila said. Supermarkets were asked to donate food and doctors were asked to report for duty.

Philippine church backs anti-communist drive

MANILA (R) — The Philippines' leading churchman, Cardinal Jaime Sin, pledged Monday that the powerful Roman Catholic Church would back the government's fight against communist rebels.

In a pastoral letter to parishioners in Manila, reprinted as a full-page advertisement in newspapers, Sin urged reconciliation with rebel supporters "who do not really espouse communist ideals" but not with those who took up arms against the government.

"For those who take the gun, who espouse violence, who seek to overthrow the government... the military authorities would be in the best position to prescribe and implement the correct strategy," he said.

"We in the church will be there to support the government's counter-insurgency efforts."

The military has placed troops and police in a "red alert" maximum state of readiness, fearing rebel attempts to disrupt celebrations this week for the second anniversary of the church-backed "people power" revolution which deposed Ferdinand Marcos.

Sin, who is archbishop of Manila and the leading prelate in Asia's only Christian nation, made no direct reference to the many nuns and priests who the army says back the rebels.

Two renegade priests who were arrested recently by the military were listed as senior figures in the Communist New People's Army.

The cardinal's comments seemed likely to throw him into further conflict with others in the church who have opposed President Corason Aquino's calls for all-out war in an effort to end the communist rebellion now entering its 20th year.

Human rights groups, backed by several major religious orders, have formally complained to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights that there have been abuses by the government.

In suburban Quezon City, a truckload of police launched a two a.m. raid Monday against suspected communist hideouts. Eleven people were taken in for questioning.

In Lano del Sur province, 32 members of a 40-man Muslim separatist group were missing after they were ambushed Sunday while on the way to an army camp where they were planning to surrender.

Cusan Mutia, leader of the group, told reporters one of his followers was killed and several wounded in the attack he thought was carried out by other rebels angered by his group's decision to give up fighting.

Moralist preacher steps down after admitting having 'sinned'

BATON ROUGE (R) — Popular television preacher Jimmy Swaggart, whose attacks helped bring down two rival evangelists for sexual misconduct, has confessed to the same sin and stepped down from his pulpit indefinitely.

A year ago Swaggart was in the forefront of criticism of Jim Bakker, also an Assemblies of God minister, who was driven from the television pulpit for a tryst with a church worker.

And in 1985, New Orleans television evangelist Marvin Gorman was ousted from the Assemblies of God at Swaggart's urgings for sexual misconduct.

Religion analysts told Reuters the scandal was likely to hurt former television evangelist Pat Robertson's presidential bid and harm fund-raising for other television ministries.

Swaggart, whose fiery style is

born of the same deep-south Bible-thumping roots that fuel the rock-and-roll of his cousin Jerry Lee Lewis, was the top-rated television preacher in the nation, leading a \$156 million worldwide ministry.

"I beg your forgiveness," the 52-year-old Swaggart whispered Sunday to more than 7,000 worshippers, some in tears, others hailing him with loud applause and standing ovations at his World Faith Centre here.

After saying to the congregation, "Thank you, God bless you," Swaggart stepped away from the pulpit, wiping his eyes.

ABC Television News, citing unnamed sources, said Gorman furnished church elders with photographs that allegedly showed Swaggart entering a hotel room with a prostitute. Gorman and his attorney have refused to comment on those reports.

Norway, Israel to tackle water dispute

OSLO (R) — Norway, seeking to establish whether its exports of heavy water have been used by Israel to make nuclear arms, said Monday it would send a delegation to Tel Aviv for talks on the issue.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Lasse Seim told Reuters the delegation would probably travel to Israel in late March.

Norwegian and Israeli officials have already met several times to discuss Oslo's request for inspection of 20 tonnes of heavy water it sold to Israel in 1959 on condition that it be used only for peaceful purposes.

Israel refuses to confirm or deny that it possesses nuclear weapons and has already refused an inspection on Norway's behalf by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Mahathir weeds out rivals, consolidates hold on party

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohammad, who successfully warded off challenges after his party was declared illegal, has dropped all rivals from the leadership of his new party.

Mahathir announced the lineup for the New United Malays National Organisation after he chaired its first supreme council meeting Sunday night.

Eight of the previous supreme council members loyal to Mahathir's rivals, former Trade and Industry Minister Razaleigh Hamzah and former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam, were removed from the 34-member decision-making body.

Mahathir promoted those loyal to him in the party and retained his aides as leaders in the new party.

He said last Tuesday when Umno Baru (new Umno) was accepted as head of Malaysia's 13-party ruling National Front

coalition that the criterion for membership admission was loyalty to the party.

His original 42-year-old Malay party, Umno, was ruled to be illegal early this month in a suit brought by 11 dissident members loyal to Razaleigh.

The judgement threw Malaysian politics into confusion.

Malaysia's first prime minister, Tan Sri Abdul Rahman, and Razaleigh's aides announced plans to set up a new party to revive the old Umno four days after the ruling. Mahathir's position as leader of the party and government was questioned.

But last Tuesday Mahathir, who as home minister has the final say in the registration of parties and societies, said Umno Baru had been formed and the application by the Tunku to set up a party had not been approved.

Umno Baru was immediately admitted into the coalition to replace the old Umno and Mahathir was re-elected as leader of the National Front.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE NAME OF THE GAME

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ K 10
♥ A J 10
♦ 10 3
♣ A J 10 9 8 6
EAST
♠ 6 5 2
♥ K 9 5 4 2
♦ K 8 4
♣ K 4

WEST
♠ 7 4
♥ K 9 6 3
♦ 9 7 5 2
♣ 7 3 2
SOUTH
♠ A Q J 9 8 3
♥ 7
♦ A Q J 6
♣ Q 5

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 NT Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass
Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♣.
Here is another hand to highlight the difference in technique between rubber bridge and duplicate. Decide how, after a heart lead, you would play a contract of six spades at these two forms of bridge.

You have bid reasonably well to get to the slam with only 29 high-card points in the combined holding. Obviously, the key to the auction is the high honor in partner's suit held by both North and South.

Since you can be sure of 12 tricks

even if the club finesse fails, it seems right to win the opening lead in dummy and draw trumps. Now you lead the queen of clubs. If it loses to East, you can win any return (rise with the ace if East shifts to a diamond) and take more than enough discards on the table's clubs to make your contract.

But what if the queen of clubs wins? At rubber bridge you should take out insurance at the cost of the overtrick by continuing with a club to the ace. Even if the king doesn't appear, you can lose no more than one diamond trick.

As it happens, you drop East's king and make the rest of the tricks. The cunning blighter had been hoping you would repeat the finesse. He would then win the king and return a heart and, since you would be cut off from the table, you would have to concede a diamond trick for down one.

At duplicate, the decision is more complicated. Since we are not convinced that everyone would bid the slam, our gut feeling is that we would assure 12 tricks by spurning the club finesse. However, that would depend on the ability of the defender in the East seat, for it is not as easy proposition to elect to hold up the king. We realize we could look silly if the club finesse was working all the time and we are the only pair not to take all the tricks!

Immigration service to promote legalisation

HARLINGEN, Texas (AP) — Employing upbeat songs and down-home block parties, federal immigration authorities are launching a show-biz campaign to combat disappointing results from their nine-month-old alien amnesty programme. With the May 4 deadline fast approaching, some critics say it's all too late. Nevertheless, radio shows, a parade float, street parties, bumper stickers and billboards are all part of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service's (INS) package of ploys for taking the message to eligible aliens.

Under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, most eligible aliens were given one year, beginning last May 5, to apply for legal U.S. residency if able to prove they have lived in this country illegally since Jan. 1, 1982. Agricultural workers have until Nov. 30 to apply. The INS had predicted about 2 million would apply for amnesty, but as of last week the total was slightly more than 1.2 million nationwide, according to the agency. In Texas, where up to 300,000 mostly Mexican and Central American applicants were expected, 189,988 had applied by last week. Immigration officials are fighting a proposal in Congress that would extend the deadline for a year.

Security police arrest Taiwan hijacker

TAIPEI (R) — A man carrying two fake hand grenades attempted to hijack a Taiwan Airliner on an internal flight Monday, ordering the pilot to fly to Peking, a spokesman for China Airlines told reporters. He said the hijacker, an unemployed 29-year-old, was overpowered by security guards on the flight from Taipei to the southern city of Kaohsiung. The Boeing 737, carrying 107 passengers and a crew of seven, landed safely in Kaohsiung and then returned to Taipei. No one was injured. The spokesman said the airliner was approaching Kaohsiung when the man handed a stewardess a note in which he threatened to explode the grenades unless the plane flew to Peking.

Bomb explodes at Paris morgue

PARIS (R) — A bomb exploded at a building housing the Paris morgue early Monday, police said, and leaflets found at the scene linked the attack to trials of members of the urban guerrilla group Action Directe. French radio said the leaflets were signed by a previously unknown group calling itself "International Revolutionary Solidarity." The radio quoted the leaflets as saying, "although we are not sympathisers of Action Directe, we are opposed to a state that traffics in arms and makes money out of death." Witnesses said the bomb, which went off at 5:30 a.m. (0430 GMT), destroyed the main entrance of the Institute of Forensic Medicine, shattering windows and damaging a laboratory. The building is in the 12th district, on the

right bank of the River Seine. Four jailed leaders of Action Directe, which has claimed responsibility for six murders and 80 other attacks in the past seven years, are in their 84th day of hunger strike in protest at being held in solitary confinement. Jean-Marc Rouillon, who formed the group in 1979, was due to go on trial Monday for three armed robberies allegedly carried out in 1983.

Intruder arrested in Buckingham Palace

LONDON (AP) — A drunken youth penetrated security devices designed to protect the royal family at Buckingham Palace and was arrested in the royal mews, Scotland Yard said early Monday. The youth, headquarters of the Metropolitan police, said the incident occurred Sunday morning. It said no further action was planned against the youth, who was released after being cautioned for being drunk and disorderly. The youth would not give the youth's name, address or age, nor say how he got into the mews, used to stable Queen Elizabeth II's 30 carriage horses, her coaches and automobiles. The mews is normally entered from Buckingham Palace road through a huge pair of doors set in a high wall topped with spikes, barbed wire, alarms and remote control cameras. The mews and the nearby queen's gallery displaying royal art treasures are the only parts of the palace complex that can be regularly visited by the public. Security at the 630-room palace was overhauled after unemployed drifter Michael Fagan climbed a drainpipe in 1982 to reach the queen's bedroom and sat on her bed chatting to her.

Near-miss reported in British skies

LONDON (AP) — A Pan American jet and a British Caledonian aircraft, carrying a total of more than 200 people, were involved in a near-miss over the southeast coast of England Sunday, the British airline said. An air traffic controller was later suspended — standard procedure according to the civil aviation authority, which said the incident would be investigated. British Caledonian said its BA 1-11, carrying 70 people, was 20 minutes out of London's Gatwick airport "bound for Amsterdam when its pilot saw the Pan Am Boeing 727 on 'a converging course' just below and one nautical mile away, near Southend, Essex. The American airliner was headed for London's Heathrow airport from Oslo, Norway. The Pan Am plane was believed to have had 152 people on board, the agency said. Press Association, the British domestic news agency, said "it was understood" that the American plane altered its course on instructions from air traffic control after a potential disaster was realised. But the aviation authority refused to comment on this claim or to say how the incident was believed to have happened.

COLUMN

Dudley Moore marries wife number three

LAS VEGAS (R) — British comedian Dudley Moore, 52, star of the films "Arthur" and "10½ married 26-year-old actress Brogan Lane in a Las Vegas "quickie wedding" chapel Sunday, his press agent, Paul Bloch, said. It was the third marriage for the 1.57-metre Moore, known to his fans as "Cuddly Dudley." The ceremony was performed by a judge at the Little Church of the West, which performs instant wedding ceremonies with no advance warning. Moore, a pianist as well as comedian who came to fame with Peter Cook in the stage revue "Beyond the Fringe" in 1960 and went on to Hollywood, was previously married to British actress Suzy Kendall and American actress Tuesday Weld, by whom he had a son, Patrick. Both marriages ended in divorce. This is the second marriage for Lane, who has a son.

Week-old programme shown on Washington TV

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CBS television network affiliate in the Washington area, WUSA-TV, mistakenly began its "Face the Nation" broadcast Sunday with last week's preview of the New Hampshire primary. Commentator Lesley Stahl started the show with, "Welcome to 'Face the Nation.' This is Lesley Stahl in New Hampshire," and spoke of what would happen in last Tuesday's primary. The error was not detected until more than five minutes into the show. At that point, Republican presidential candidate Pat Robertson was talking about prophecies concerning the "forces of evil" in the world and an embattled Israel. The tape was abruptly cut, and the show picked up with Stahl in mid-sentence asking Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin about Israeli forces being out of control in the West Bank. Diane Digit, WUSA publicity manager, said as soon as engineers realised they were mistakenly running last week's show, they switched to a tape containing the correct broadcast. CBS affiliate stations around the country tape the weekly show from a feed transmitted by the network's New York office, she said.

Nigeria's last reported AIDS patient dies

LAGOS (AP) — The last reported AIDS patient in Nigeria has died, a newspaper said Sunday. Mahamadu Debas, a 42-year-old tailor from Gambia, died Friday, the Vanguard newspaper said. His death brought to 12 the number of people who have died of acquired immune deficiency syndrome in Nigeria. The newspaper said Debas was the last known AIDS victim in the country. Nigeria reported its first AIDS case only eight months ago. Debas' case became a controversy in Nigeria when he was forcibly hospitalised by health authorities last August for five months. Several doctors disrupted the AIDS diagnosis. The man was released from a hospital last month at his own request.

South Korea reports its first AIDS case

SEOUL (AP) — The Health and Social Affairs Ministry announced Monday that a South Korean man who returned home after years of work overseas has become South Korea's first AIDS patient. Ministry officials said the 32-year-old man was believed to have contracted acquired immune deficiency syndrome through sexual contact while working since 1984 on foreign ships registered with the United States, Panama and Japan. The ministry said the man returned to South Korea two weeks ago. Tests have shown that 15 South Koreans carry the AIDS virus, but none of this group has developed the disease, ministry officials said.

Expert warns koalas face extinction

MELBOURNE (AP) — Koalas, Australia's national symbol, could become extinct unless long-term plans are devised to protect their habitat, an expert warned Monday. "I am positive that if we don't take immediate action, the koala, our famous 'animal ambassador,' will slowly but surely slide down the inevitable path toward extinction," said Koala Preservation Society President Don Burnett.